

JOHN A. SEAVERN



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HAMBLETONIAN.



# AMERICAN ROADSTERS

AND

## TROTTING HORSES.

BEING A SKETCH OF THE

TROTTING STALLIONS OF THE UNITED STATES,

AND A

TREATISE ON THE BREEDING OF THE SAME,

WITH AN APPENDIX

SHOWING THE PEDIGREES AND BREEDING, SO FAR AS KNOWN, OF ALL TROTTERS THAT HAVE A RECORD IN 2:25 OR BETTER, AND CONTAINING MUCH PRACTICAL MATTER RELATING TO THE BREAKING, MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT OF TROTTING AND BREEDING STOCK.

Illustrated with Photo-Views of the Representative Stallions of the Past and Present.

By H. T. HELM,

COUNSELOR AT LAW.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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IN the spring of 1876, I began the preparation of a series of articles on The Trotting Stallions, for publication in the *National Live-Stock Journal*, of Chicago. The scope and design of the same, at first limited, was enlarged during the progress of the chapters which extended through the year. The consideration which those articles received from the readers of that and other journals which in part copied them, was gratifying to me, and the numerous letters and words of commendation received from every part of this country and beyond the Atlantic, have gone far toward inducing me to put the treatise thus imperfectly outlined into more complete and permanent form.

My study of the Trotting Horse has extended through a period of several years, and I have not studied the subject as most editors of journals devoted to kindred subjects have usually done, with no actual contact with the animals—being mainly a matter of theory on paper. On the contrary, while I have also been closely engaged in professional pursuits, I have been more or less concerned with agricultural enterprises and affairs almost continuously for the past twenty years, and for the past ten years have been a horse breeder, having bred in the States of Connecticut, New York, Ohio, Kentucky and Wisconsin, in addition to the keeping of a large list at home most of the time. I speak not of my successes—they have been mainly for the benefit of others, as I think a man who runs two professions at the same time, as I have done, will not be likely to advance his own interests at either; but for all this, my opportunities for studying horses have been something of which I may speak.

While I have known most of the gentlemen who are breeders of horses in different parts of the country, and have read the greater part of the current horse literature for the past ten years, I must still be allowed to say that I have learned more from the horses themselves than from all other sources. I have received my best lessons from them, and have learned the importance and value of studying the animals, and in them learning their conformations, compositions and blood traits. Had I never made the animals a study in all their essential parts, I



think I should never have undertaken to write regarding them. I will not speak lightly of the horse literature of the day in this connection; it has been of value to me, but that which has taught me most, was my mingling with and close study of the animals.

I am not a journalist, and have no interest in one. I never wrote an article in my life for pecuniary recompense. In my sketches of the various trotting stallions I have at all times declined recompense, being unwilling to be placed under any obligations to the owners—other than that which I owed to the reading public—to be fair and faithful in portraying excellences or in delineating faults. In some instances the owners of prominent stallions have tendered me the compliment of the gratuitous service of a stallion—which, as a breeder I have felt at all times at liberty to accept—but in no case at the expense of an unfair or unfaithful expression of opinion with reference to the particular animal or any other.

My readers have the assurance that the opinions herein expressed are my own—so far as they purport to be—and no one else is to be held accountable for them or accredited with them. Whether they be approved or assailed, as they have in each case, in the past, makes no difference with me. Such is the privilege of every one in this country.

That my methods of studying and describing horses have been novel to some of the writing gentlemen, is not singular. They never studied horses in that way, and it may also be said, that from their descriptions in many cases, their readers never derived much information. Superficiality has never been one of my standards in the investigation of any subject, and if my delineations of the composition, blood traits, conformation and characteristics of horses have differed from the stereotyped form long in use, it has been the result of the difference in my methods of study and investigation pursued.

Some regard it as a matter of delicacy to write or speak of the respective merits of other people's stock—and it is said that this stallion business is a sensitive spot: I have no such feeling. All breeders have a common interest in the general improvement of stock in this country, and information relative to the subject is the property of all who can fairly obtain it.

If a stallion possesses qualities unknown to the public, they look, in great part, to the stock journals to learn his value; and if a rank has been given to or claimed for an animal which is not justified by his merits, any one desiring to read, has a just right to correct infor-

mation or opinions on the subject. Horses, in this respect, are no better or more sacred than men; and reputation should be measured by their deeds and character. The reputation of an animal is largely dependent upon its owner. Many horses of great merit are not so known to the public, because their owners do not employ all the arts and appliances that pertain to the business to bring them famously into notice. When I have found such an animal, I have not hesitated to disclose to my readers some glimmer of his concealed light. On the other hand, it is equally true that by dint of artful advertising, and the employment of cunning devices—the ways of which are without number, and past finding out to those whose interests lead them to be duped—many animals have for a time secured a fame and prominence which gathered money into the pockets of their shrewd and unscrupulous managers, but whose real merits were so meagre as to give no reward to the enterprise, or return for the money of their misled patrons. Where I have encountered any such as these, my pen has not failed to prick the bubble that swelled with their great nothingness. I deal with facts as I obtain them, and in opinions as I hold them.

It is not believed that we have yet bred a stallion so near perfection that we may not discuss his merits, and refer to his faults if he have them. Some exception can perhaps be taken to the best stallion we have seen. Administrator, Cuyler, Florida, Volunteer, Ahmont, Thorndale, Daniel Lambert, Blackwood and Governor Sprague, and the many others described herein, are all good horses, and great stallions, but to each some just exception may be properly taken, yet their merits are so great, that their respective owners need feel in no way sensitive because they can not be pronounced absolutely perfect. It will be seen that while I have found and pointed out defects when they existed, my work has been mainly devoted to portraying excellences and the better traits. This results from the fact that I write of the best and most distinguished horses of our day, rather than those which only exhibit infirmities.

Inasmuch as it has been my aim to make each subject as complete in itself as possible without reference to its being a part of an entire treatise, there will be found very frequent repetitions of similar matter both in facts and in application of principles advanced, and in each of two instances I have repeated a page or more *in verbis*. Such repetitions may occupy much space, but the recurrence to the matter thus brought out in new relations will not be without its value. Some

of my positions have been newly taken, and I have deemed it wise that the proper evidences accompany them in each case respectively.

In my reference to time records, I have used the tables which have been prepared for the Stock Journals, three of them in number, and as they do not altogether agree, I wish it understood that allowance must be made therein for any imperfections or errors of records.

It is proper that I should state that in the pursuit of the studies which have resulted in this work, and in the preparation of the treatise itself, I have made free use of all the current books, journals and other literature of the day bearing on the subject under consideration. The Stud Books and volumes of the *Trotting Register*, of course, have been my constant books of reference in the study of pedigrees, and the various turf and other journals have furnished me much information. I wish to say that while I frequently refer to the overturning of pedigrees in the *Trotting Register*, it is with no spirit of fault finding. The very careful and laborious editor makes his pedigrees from the best information at hand, and I am happy to say, that I believe he is always ready to overturn one when he has found a better one, or one supported by better evidence. His work possesses great value from this fact.

I acknowledge myself indebted to him and his labors, and while I often refer to him and do not always assent to his views, it is at all times with feelings of a high appreciation for his valuable labors.

I desire to express my acknowledgment for much valuable assistance and aid at various stages of my work rendered by J. H. Sanders, Editor of the *National Live-Stock Journal*. The extracts from that journal included in the first chapter of this work are mainly from his pen and cover the points so nearly as I would have expressed them, that it would have looked like taking them without due credit to the author had I done otherwise than as I have. I need hardly say they embody much careful reflection well expressed.

To the many gentlemen in all parts of this country who have at all times furnished me information and afforded me many opportunities for investigation, I return my sincere and grateful acknowledgments.

Although the work here presented may contain some errors and many imperfections, I am consoled with the hope that it may still suggest some ideas of value, and lead others to pursue with more satisfactory and valuable results the train of studies which have given me so much gratification.

# AMERICAN ROADSTERS

AND

## TROTTING HORSES.

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### CHAPTER I.

#### THE BREEDING PROBLEM.

LAWS OF HEREDITY—SELECTION—CROSS-BREEDING AND IN-BREEDING—  
INFLUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT.

STOCKBREEDING is simply reproduction—the advancement of domestic animals in the scale of valuable qualities—bringing the same forth in increased numbers and in increased excellence, and thus making the same more serviceable to the human race in general, and more remunerative to the producer in particular. This can only be done by the exercise of that wisdom and intelligent selection of methods which will enable the breeder to avoid the errors, if any, in previous efforts, and to combine, renew and increase the excellencies of that which preceded, in the animals which are to be produced and employed in the furtherance of the business of reproduction. Development and progressive advancement constitute the law of intelligent efforts in the management of the animal creation, which is subject to man, the superior.

The first great principle involved is that of acquirement and transmission. To apply this principle successfully in the production and improvement of the breed or qualities of domestic animals involves a knowledge and close observation of the LAWS OF EVOLUTION AND HEREDITY, or the rules which govern in the acquirement of certain

qualities or characteristics, either mental or corporeal, psychological or physical, in one generation, and the transmission of the same to succeeding generations, and the increase, diminution or other modification thereof in the offspring or descendants.

The process here referred to embraces the operation of two forces, which appear to be exactly opposite or antagonistic to each other—the one a conservative force, and the other an aggressive or disturbing force; or, as it has been well expressed, Heredity, which makes of every individual the sum or essence or aggregation of that which has lived before him—which opposes all change, all progress and all improvement—the other, Evolution, which compels heredity to give way to internal and external causes, and modifies both the physical and mental organism, and places in the breeder's hands the means of effecting desirable and valuable changes.

Of these, heredity is unquestionably the stronger force, because, as we shall see, when uniformity has once been established, the general principle that like produces like finds very rarely an exception. In fact, the influence of heredity is always present, and in the reproduction of animal life, never fails to assert itself, in a greater or less degree. Every living thing brings forth young after its own kind—in some cases the exact counterpart of the parent, and in others slightly modified; but always showing more or less of the parent type. Men do not gather grapes of thorns, nor figs of thistles, neither do Short-horn cows bring forth buffalo calves, nor draft mares produce thoroughbred race-horses. Hence, although we may frequently meet with very apparent differences between the parents and the progeny, yet a moment's reflection will show us that the points of resemblance are always very much greater than those of difference.

We are so accustomed to look at the operation of this law in its details, that we overlook the aggregate of results. We mate a purely-bred Essex sow and boar, and look upon it as a matter of course that the pigs produced will all be black, and possess the general characteristics of the Essex breed; but if having selected our breeding pair with a view to the transmission of a peculiar form of the head or shape of the ear, we find in the produce that few, and possibly none possess the peculiarity which we have sought to perpetuate, we are apt to lose faith in the power of heredity. And yet it would be an argument *against* the uniform operation of this law were the product all to possess the peculiarity which distinguished the sire and dam, for this was an exceptional feature; and the fact that the pigs possessed, in lieu of this peculiar mark, the character that belonged to their ancestors in general, is rather a testimony to the inherent power of heredity than otherwise. Were our pair of pure Essex swine to produce Poland-China or Berkshire or Yorkshire pigs, there would be room for suspicion, and for complaint that the laws of heredity had been violated; but such a transgression of Nature's law so rarely occurs, that when it does take place, we may properly call the result a

“sport.” Hence the failure of an individual to reproduce features that are peculiar to itself, or of a pair of individuals, distinguished for the same peculiarity, to transmit it to the offspring, should excite no surprise in the mind of the breeder. Heredity transmits with certainty only what has become a fixed character in the race. Sports, accidental variations, and individual peculiarities, only occur in opposition to this law, and their transmission is at best uncertain. Heredity may be depended on to govern the general characteristics which determine the species, and the less general ones, which distinguish the breed, but when we come to individual characteristics, which have never acquired a general character in the ancestry, it frequently fails. In short, the transmission of the greater share of all the characteristics is a thing of universal occurrence, but their transmission *in toto* is an ideal conception that is never realized; and only in proportion as the ancestry has assumed a fixed and unvarying type, do we find this ideal of the effect of heredity approximated.

That peculiarity called atavism, or reversion, so often noticed in our domesticated animals, and which has so frequently set at naught the calculations of the breeder, has often been quoted as an illustration of the failure of the law of heredity; but it is, in fact, only a tribute to its power. By selection, change of climate or of nutrition, or by crossing, or by all of these means combined, we may succeed in obliterating certain well-defined characteristics, and in modifying a given type, until the new form or character that we have created will, in its turn, be transmitted with reasonable certainty; but suddenly the germ that has lain dormant for so many generations asserts itself, and, greatly to our surprise, the characteristics of the original stock will reappear. These cases of reversion most frequently occur when cross-breeding is resorted to. The counter currents of hereditary influence, which are by this means brought into contact, having a common origin, awaken to life the germ which has for generations been a silent factor in each of the newly-created breeds, and enables it to again assume control of the organism.

In addition to the general and well-defined operation of the laws of heredity to which we have alluded, its operations in the transmission of individual characteristics, although not clearly defined, and never to be depended upon, are often wonderful. The son is frequently, in some respects, the exact duplicate of the father, and the daughter of the mother. Sometimes a peculiarity which belonged to the grandsire lies dormant in the son, but crops out as strong as ever in the second or third generation. Again: we find peculiarities transmitted from father to daughter, and from mother to son, and even especial sexual characteristics transmitted by the father through a daughter to a grandson, or by the mother through a son to a granddaughter; but it is worthy of remark, that in no case are all the peculiarities of any one individual transmitted. Indeed, it would be strange were it otherwise, because each individual is the joint product of two other individuals, each endowed with peculiarities of its own; and that each should transmit itself as an entirety is absolutely impossible. Neither do we find in the individual so produced a blending of these peculiarities in exact proportion—as one might theoretically argue would be the result were the parents of equally well estab-

lished types—but rather that in some respects the offspring resembles the father, in others the mother; in some forming a partial or exact mean between the two; and in still others we find the produce utterly unlike either, giving it an individuality or character of its own. We might illustrate this by instances from the experience of every breeder, but it is not necessary. The effect has been observed by all who have given any attention whatever to the subject of breeding.

The foregoing extract is taken from a very able and philosophical article in the *National Live Stock Journal*, and as this matter of the certain transmission of acquired qualities, and the fact that such qualities can also be and are acquired and changed as the result of judicious selections and training in the hands of the intelligent breeder and handler lies at the threshold of the subject of breeding trotting horses, I have deemed it proper to present my readers here with various extracts both from the same series and other articles in that and other journals. It is a subject that is worthy of our most careful consideration.

Where animals in a state of nature are not disturbed in the enjoyment of the conditions under which they have existed for ages, as the American bison, or buffalo, the elk, the deer, the wolf, etc., the uniformity which prevails among all the individuals of the race is remarkable; and all the peculiarities of structure, color and character are transmitted from generation to generation with almost unerring certainty; and here the maxim of the breeder, that "like produces like," scarcely ever meets with an exception. Such animals are, in the truest sense of the word, *thoroughbred*, or purely bred. There has been no commingling of blood, or crossing of various strains, to give the race a composite character, and hence, when we have seen the sire and dam, we can tell with certainty what the progeny will be. Were any of our domesticated animals *thoroughbreds*, in the sense that the bison, the elk or the deer are thoroughbreds, the breeding problem would be a simple one, and like would produce like as long as the conditions of life remained the same. The same principle holds true in the reproduction of *vegetable* life. An absolutely pure seed reproduces its kind, but when cross fertilization has once taken place, the result is uncertain. If the flower of the Baldwin apple tree be fertilized by the pollen of a Winesap, the seed from this union will produce neither the one nor the other. It will be an *apple*, because both of its parents were apples; but as they were of different varieties, or forms, or character, so the produce will have a character of its own, differing from both of its ancestors. And even if the stigma of the Baldwin be fertilized by pollen of its own kind, the result is uncertain, because the parent is itself the result of cross-fertilization. The application of this principle to the crossing of different races of domestic animals is evident, and we shall have occasion to refer to it hereafter.

But, notwithstanding the uniformity of which we have spoken, in the produce of absolutely pure or unmixed races, there arises occasionally what

is termed an accidental variation from the established type—a *sport*, as it is frequently called. The color of the American deer is of a fixed type, and a departure from this color is justly regarded as a great curiosity; yet, a white deer is occasionally found; and so of other animals in which the color is an equally well-established characteristic. Man has five fingers on each hand and five toes on each foot, and in this particular the race is uniform; and yet a “sport” is occasionally found, where the number of fingers or toes is increased to six. When these accidental variations once occur, they are liable, under favorable conditions, to be transmitted by inheritance; but under the ordinary operations of Nature’s laws, when the conditions of life remain unchanged, these anomalies usually disappear within one or two generations, and the normal and characteristic type of the race is resumed. A well-authenticated instance of the transmission of accidental variations is found in the oft-quoted case of Edward Lambert, whose whole body, with the exception of the face, the soles of the feet, and the palms of the hands, was covered with a sort of horny excrescence, which was periodically moulted. His six sons all inherited the same peculiarity, and the only one of the six that survived transmitted it, in turn, to all his sons. This abnormal character was transmitted through the male line for six generations, and then disappeared. We have also several well-authenticated cases of the transmission, for a few generations, of an abnormal number of fingers or toes; as in the case of the Colburn family where each of the members had a supernumerary toe and finger, which anomaly was transmitted, although irregularly, for four generations before it entirely disappeared. The writer is personally cognizant of a case in which the second and third toe of each foot were united, and which anomaly has been transmitted for three generations to one only, out of an average of eight descendants in each family. But, as before remarked, when the conditions of life remain unchanged, these anomalies almost invariably disappear, and the descendants resume the typical character of the race.

From the fact that these accidental variations have shown themselves to be, in a limited degree, transmissible by heredity, we may infer that if selections were made with a view to their perpetuation, they might ultimately become fixed characters—but of this more hereafter. Indeed, there is a considerable weight of evidence tending to show that even variations produced by mutilation, or by other artificial means, are sometimes transmitted, especially when the mutilation has been intimately connected with the nervous system. Dr. Prosper Lucas gives numerous well-authenticated instances of this character, and is decidedly of the opinion that variations or mutilations that are the result of disease, are transmissible. That eminent scientist, Dr. Brown-Sequard, gives an interesting account of some experiments with guinea pigs. By an operation upon a certain nerve, he produced epileptic convulsions, and the produce of the animals upon which this operation was performed manifested the same symptoms. But notwithstanding the numerous instances given by the eminent authorities above quoted, we are of the opinion that the cases of the transmission of these artificially produced variations are so rare as to be practically of no account in the calculation of the breeder.

The law which governs the transmission of these accidental variations,



whether they be the result of a "sport" or of external influences, appears to be, that when such variations from the common type are in antagonism to the conditions of life to which the individual is subjected, the variations are not perpetuated; while, on the other hand, if they are in conformity to the existing wants or conditions, add natural selection, and a survival of the fittest will tend to perpetuate them.

From the foregoing it is evident that the laws of heredity tend to reproduce in the progeny the character of the ancestors; and that when the ancestry is of a fixed and uniform type, the maxim that "like produces like" admits of few exceptions. Yet there are exceptions even here, as we have seen in the case of sports; and the modifications produced by changed conditions of life, adaptation to new uses, and new modes of subsistence, tend to vary what, under the operation of the unrestricted laws of heredity, would fix a given type, and leave the breeder's art powerless to effect change or improvement.

As to the results to be attained from the employment for breeding purposes, of animals that from accident or unaccountable cause exhibit marked peculiarities, either physical or mental, or when they possess great excellencies or great and serious defects or vices, the following principles and facts taken from an able article in the same journal, and written by a medical gentleman, are expressed in terms both instructive and entertaining:

Where two races of men, or species of animals, are crossed, the superior race or species generally predominates. The same rule holds with regard to crosses of the same race or species; the superior blood taking precedence over the inferior, all other things being equal.

In the laws of transmission by descent are doubtless to be found the secret of the rise and decadence of nations, and the improvement and retrogression of stock. Race after race of men have risen to a high plane of civilization, and then again deteriorated to almost savage barbarism, being overcome or supplanted by others often of a higher degree of intelligence than the supplanted race had ever attained. An instance of this is seen in the native American or red man being overcome by the more highly endowed European. The Malayan and Papuan races are fast retrograding; being examples of the dying-out process. Modern Arabians, Turks, Egyptians, Italians, and even Greeks, are known to be far inferior, in every essential particular, to their progenitors; the Anglo-Saxon, Slavonic and Teutonic races are rapidly absorbing them, and taking their place, and the time is not far distant when those ancient nations will be known only in history. Without further referring to these laws, as relating to the physiological changes at present being developed among the races of the earth, it is sufficient to say that, from the present prospect, the nations possessing the greatest admixture of Slavonic, Teutonic, Celtic, Pelasgic and Iberian elements will continue to be in the ascendant; while, doubtless, as these elements separate or approach their original type of the race, they will decline in many important characteristics. This theory, exemplified by the thorough admixture of blood (within our

race), may, and perhaps does, furnish a solution of the secret of the prosperity of the Aryan race. In other words, a correct theory may be formulated thus: That the most prosperous nation is that in which there is the least percentage of marriages between near relatives, and also the least between persons of different races. Numerous instances, tending to establish the correctness of this theory, both as to man and animals, might be adduced; and much evidence, both of a positive and negative character, could be presented to support this view. Of the latter kind, may be offered the acknowledged want of physical stamina, as well as frequent infertility, of the Mulatto and Mestizo—the women of the Papuan race, after crossing with the European, are nearly all barren, or, if they have offspring, they are much enfeebled, both physically and mentally. It is known that the progeny of a cross between the Christian and Jew, or other Semitic race, is almost universally more or less enfeebled. To such an extent had this obtained in the French province of Algeria, that a committee of the Climatological Society of France, sent to Algeria to investigate the subject, officially reported to their Government that, in the acclimatization of Europeans in that country, alliances should not be allowed, under any circumstances, with the Arab race, as it was in process of deterioration, and final extinction; while intermarriage with the Latin races, planted on the shores of the Mediterranean (Spaniards, Italians and Maltese), should be encouraged, as they showed a much higher degree of fertility and vitality. The Jew holds it to be a religious duty not to intermarry with the Aryan race; and it is perhaps owing to their knowledge of these physiological facts that they discourage such alliances.

In animals, the mule, or any mongrel breed, is more or less defective in some of the characteristics of the original species. As a rule they are sterile.

Attempts have recently been made to bring the theory or laws of transmission by descent into disrepute, by assuming that, in accordance with these laws, a one-legged man should procreate a one-legged offspring. But the learned and indefatigable physiologist, Dr. Brown-Sequard, has recently made some singular discoveries upon this subject, which go far toward showing that even this apparent impossibility may be overcome. Brown-Sequard does not as yet claim that the one-legged breed is to be looked for at a very early day; but he has demonstrated, by a series of conclusive experiments on Guinea pigs (his favorite animals for experiment), that injuries to parents do result in the production of offspring with analogous lesions. I will give, briefly, some of his conclusions concerning the hereditary transmission to animals of morbid states, caused, in one or the other of the parents, by injury to the nervous system.

1st. A change in the shape of the ear in animals born of parents in which such a change was the result of a division of the cervical sympathetic nerve.

2d. A partial closure of the eyelids in animals born of parents in which that state of the eyelids had been caused, either by section of the cervical sympathetic, or removal of superior cervical ganglion.

3d. *Exophthalmia* in animals born of parents in which an injury to the *restiform body* had produced that protrusion of the eyeball.

4th. *Hæmatoma* and dry gangrene of the ears in animals born of parents in

which the alterations resulted from an injury to the restiform body, near the nib of the calamus.

5*th*. Absence of two toes out of the three of the hind leg, and sometimes all three, in animals whose parents had eaten their hind-leg toes, which had become anæsthetic from a section of the sciatic nerve, or of that nerve and the crural.

6*th*. Appearance of various morbid states of the skin, hair of the neck and face, in animals born of parents having similar alterations in the same parts, produced by injury to the sciatic nerve.

In regard to these last cases, Brown-Sequard concludes that the sciatic nerve in the congenitally toeless animal has inherited or acquired the power of transmission by passing through all the different morbid states which had existed in one or other of the parents, and that this power in the parents was received through the central end of the nerve, from the time of division till after its reunion with the peripheric end. Hence, if this view is correct, it is not simply the power of performing a single action which is inherited, but that of performing a series of actions at a proper time, and in their proper order. In my opinion, what is most likely transmitted, in nearly if not all cases of hereditary transmission, is the morbid or peculiar state of the nervous system. Therefore, when we consider how closely the moral is related to the nervous system, we are not so much surprised at the growing tendency to recurrence of nervous or mental diseases—those states which so imperiously demand narcotics and stimulants—as also at the remarkable hereditary tendency to crime and pauperism. In a paper recently read before the New York Charities Aid Association, by Dr. Harris, a most remarkable instance of the hereditary transmission of crime, etc., was presented in the case of the woman Margaret. Attention was first called to it from the fact that a certain county in Northern New York contained so large a percentage of criminals and paupers—it having been officially reported that one-tenth of the entire population were of these two classes. Upon investigation, for the purpose of determining the cause of this state of affairs, it was found that, more than seventy years ago, a girl, having no other name than that of Margaret, first made her appearance in that region, nothing being known of her ancestors. She was a vagrant at an early age. There being no poor-house in the county at which she could be kept, she roamed through the country, begging from neighbors and others, never having a home, nor receiving an education nor any proper instruction. At an early age she began to bear children—illegitimate, of course—who became paupers, like herself. Since that time, about nine hundred descendants have been traced to this outcast woman. Of this progeny more than two hundred stand recorded as criminals, and a large number of the remainder are known to be idiots, lunatics and drunkards. Virtue was unknown to any of them of either sex. In one generation there were twenty children, three of whom died young; of the remaining seventeen, nine were criminals, having been sent to State prisons for aggregate terms of fifty years, and the rest were almost constant inmates of jails, prisons and alms-houses.

Animals which have acquired certain peculiar qualities, or perfection of senses, through habit or training, or both, possess the power of transmitting

those peculiarities to their offspring. For example, the wolf, possessing a most remarkably acute sense of smell, when crossed by the union of a dog with a female wolf, results in a progeny with a marked excellence of scent. Of course traces of other wolf characteristics, etc., are, to a greater or less extent, found in the progeny, through successive generations, such as resemblance in form, countenance or expression, disposition, etc. Domestic life, to some extent, softens their savage nature; but there is one peculiarity that always attaches to them, and is retained for many successive generations—which is their suspicion. When a dog of this cross is called by his master, no matter how familiar he may be with him, he will never approach him in a straight line, as dogs usually do, but will take a more or less zigzag course. It is said such dogs never wholly lay aside this peculiarity.

It may be stated, as an incontrovertible proposition, that nearly, if not all, the inclinations resulting from education, climate, mode of life, or food, after having been converted into fixed habits, and cultivated for two or three successive generations, become hereditary, and are capable of being transmitted. The descendants will often so display them from birth that it is impossible to distinguish the acquired qualities from those which are more inherent in their constitution. Hence, it is obvious that in those animals which have been able (by reason of local advantages, etc., etc.) to freely cultivate and develop their faculties and powers, individuals may transmit to their offspring dispositions and qualities, both of body and mind, superior to those with which they themselves were naturally endowed.

Naturally, shepherd dogs seldom have a fine nose. For generations they were scarcely ever called to exercise the sense of scent; hence, it became obtuse. Although they are quick of perception, hearing and sight, and naturally possessed of an extraordinary amount of intelligence, augmented by constant association with their master, and notwithstanding their docility, which is inborn, it is nearly impossible to find a good hunting dog among them, for the sole reason that they are usually deficient in that most essential quality for that use—that of scent. Yet I have known of instances where the shepherd dog has shown evidence of the possession of an acute sense of scent, and, in hunting quail or chicken, nearly, if not quite, equal to most pointers and setters; but this was the result of cultivation and training through successive generations. A peculiarity in this regard—which should be observed by breeders of improved stock—is, that among qualities or habits, those which are most certainly acquired, and afterward transmitted hereditarily, may, and often do, assume an equal character of spontaneity with the disposition and qualities most inherent in the animal. True, those races of dogs which have been trained for several successive generations to seize and fetch game, manifest, from their birth almost, these two dispositions. Yet, it must be admitted that it is not strictly natural to them; on the contrary, the more natural inclination of this carnivorous animal would be to seize and devour the game. In the well-trained dog, however, these dispositions to kill and eat become weaker, and will finally disappear entirely when discouraged and neglected for several generations. But equally so do those which proceed even more directly from nature. Take, for instance, the wild rabbit; his natural disposi-

tion is to burrow in the ground; by taming and cultivation in a warren for several generations, he ceases to burrow—a part of his natural instinct being effaced, and which will only reappear when a continued recurrence of wants makes him appreciate its necessity again.

The laws of hereditary transmission also govern the more subordinate, as well as the dominant, characteristics; hence, fecundity, longevity, peculiar idiosyncrasies, as well as purely personal traits, become established and transmissible, and it appears, to some extent at least, independent of mode of living, race, climate, food or profession. Many instances might be given in proof of these statements, were it deemed necessary. Longevity, which is capable of being extended or diminished, owing to selection or crosses, does not depend upon race, mode of life, or climate, so much as upon heredity. The general average of life may be, and doubtless is, affected by local causes, such as hygiene, climate and civilization; but individual longevity is almost entirely independent of these influences. Longevity may be said to result from an internal principle of vitality, which certain persons or animals receive at birth or time of conception. Again, some families become prematurely aged, their hair turning gray, and their physical and mental powers giving way at a comparatively early age. Some families appear to be endowed with a peculiar immunity from certain forms of disease, and especially so of contagious diseases. Heredity exerts a controlling influence over the reproductive functions. Some families of men and animals are remarkable for their fecundity. Other families, again, have a peculiar voice; the females speaking like males, or rough and coarse. Stammering, lisping, or speaking with a nasal twang, is characteristic of some families. There are families of musicians, who almost invariably possess a fine ear for music. Others, again, are notably defective in this particular, having no ear at all for music. Loquacity is characteristic of some families. Dr. Lucas observes that "most children of talkative parents are chatterboxes from infancy." In some families of horses nearly all are found to be natural pacers, etc., etc.

The hereditary transmission of disease, or, at least, a predisposition thereto, as well as anomalies of organization, can not be denied. The case of Edward Lambert is a well authenticated instance. His whole body, with the exception of his hands, face and soles of the feet, was covered with horny excrescences. He was the father of six children, all of whom, from an early age, presented the same peculiarity of the skin. The only one of the children who survived to manhood transmitted it to all his sons; thus it passed through several generations. What appears strange in this case is, that the sons only were affected, and alone capable of transmitting it.

We have in the horse history of this country an instance very similar to the foregoing. Winthrop Messenger, a son of Imported Messenger, and the one of that family from which the many distinguished Messengers of the State of Maine descended, was attacked with grease or scratches, which, from neglect and want of care, became chronic, and continued to his death in a greatly aggravated form. It has

marked his descendants for several generations, and amounts to almost a family characteristic.

Rachitis, tuberculosis, albinism, ectrodactylism and polydactylism, labia leporina, as well as many other deviations from the natural type, may become developed, established, and then hereditarily transmitted. These facts are not only of interest as applied to the human family, but they are of great importance to those who are engaged in the breeding and improvement of all kinds of animals, as from these we determine that all deviations from the original type, whether the result of excess or arrest of organic development, are hereditary and transmissible, and also that the individual type is but little, if any, less subject to the laws of heredity than the specific or original type. It must be remembered, in this connection, that neither the specific nor individual deviations are always transmitted, as it is well known that sometimes they do not appear to be. Hence, it is questionable whether we must conclude that deviations from the specific type are fixed permanently, or the heredity restricted. Observation leads us to believe that there exists a tendency to return to the original or specific type. This is shown by the case of Colburn, reported by Burdach. Each of this family had a supernumerary toe and finger, the anomaly continuing through four generations. In this case the normal steadily gained upon the abnormal; as, in the first generation, there was but one with the proper number of toes and fingers to 35 with six; in the second generation, there was one to 14, and in the third, one to 3—this shows a rapid return toward the normal type.

Having briefly referred to the transmission of anomalies of structure, longevity, fecundity and idiosyncrasies, etc., as more particularly relating to, or involved in, the very nature of the animal or being as constituted through the process of generation, I now propose to devote a few words to what I conceive to be a more difficult, as well as more important, phase of the subject under consideration—that of the relation of heredity to more strictly acquired modifications; such, for example, as vital or nervous force, mental habits and muscular strength and power, as developed in the nervous and muscular system, through both education and exercise. I do not think there can be a doubt as to the transmission of muscular strength, as well as the different forms of motor energy. As a type, the Celt excels as a pugilist—there being families of prize-fighters. Formerly, there have been families of athletes, etc., etc.

Galton, who has given this subject considerable attention, declares, “that the best oarsmen, wrestlers, athletes, dancers, etc., generally belong to a small number of families, among whom strength and skill are hereditary.”

Horse breeders are familiar with the fact, that certain types of the horse possess a superiority of motor energy and muscular strength over others, and try to make their selection in breeding accordingly. It must be admitted, however, that their study of this subject has, heretofore, been too much of an empirical order—their knowledge being derived almost wholly from observation, and not from a proper study of the fixed laws regulating hereditary transmission.

The stock and breeding journals of this country abound with instances of marked and peculiar qualities and traits that have been acquired by certain animals, and which are transmitted to their offspring with great uniformity, but in many cases differing in the degree of their apparent transmission. It is also very noticeable that in some instances the young progeny seem to have the peculiarities that mark or distinguish the family to a degree that surpasses even the parents. In some, the habit or peculiarity appears either wanting or deficient in early life, but at a later period develops in full force and intensity, and in some cases the early precocity appears to grow dim or feeble with age.

Every one familiar with the different breeds of dogs is aware of the changes that have been wrought in the habits and characteristics of the several families of the canine species—how their peculiar traits develop and intensify by use and employment, and how rapidly they retrograde by indolence and a change in employment. A pair of young Collies or shepherd dogs introduced on a farm where there are no others of the same breed and no cattle or sheep to herd, instinctively herd together the ducks and geese, chickens and turkeys on the farm, even to the annoyance of the feathered bipeds. But they must have occupation, for such are their instincts, and if they can not find flocks of sheep they will huddle together the geese of the barn yard and stand guard about them.

So of the young setter and pointer. My first lessons in chicken shooting on the prairie were taken over a young dog that had neither teacher nor trainer, and he seemed to require none. His hereditary instincts caused him to know which were the right birds and in a little time he would notice no other—a rabbit did not attract his attention any more than a pig or a cat ; but, strange to say, when he was an older dog, and from want of employment in his favorite line—that of pointing birds—he had learned to chase rabbits in his idle hours, he seemed to lose much of the unerring sagacity which led him when very young to seek only the feathered game. He was bred from parents that had been carefully bred for the latter game only. Fox hounds have been so bred that they would run and cry on the track of a fox when very young and give no heed to a rabbit that crossed their path in full sight. From their breeding they were true to the game and sport for which their parents of the kennel had been kept ; yet every one perhaps knows that the common fox hound will chase rabbits as readily and as persistently as anything else if indulged in

that sort of pastime. However, if bred from stock that is kept exclusively for the fox hunt, they are true to their hereditary instincts.

We are familiar also with the fact, that the fecundity of certain animals and families is hereditary. Sows will have twelve pigs at a litter whose dams have been alike fruitful for several generations. Cows that bear twins or are habitually large milkers, not only transmit that quality to their own female offspring but transmit to their male offspring the quality of begetting others with like characteristics. It is well understood, however, that in order to maintain their hereditary qualities in perfection, two things in particular are necessary—one is, that the animal be kept and used for the purpose that calls into requisition the peculiar qualities or characteristics for which the animal or breed is noted. As the quality was developed in part by use, so it must be maintained; and if allowed to grow idle or indolent and fall into disuse, the quality is lost or greatly impaired, and will not be transmitted to the offspring in the force and positiveness with which it originally existed in the given animal or family.

The second consideration or law is, that in cross-breeding the selections be made of such animals as maintain the given quality in like or greater degree, and in whom it has also been used and not lain idle and dormant. It can also be lost or confused by conflicting traits or qualities by cross-breeding into or from families where the trait is lacking, or where conflicting and contrary traits existed. These two points or considerations must be kept constantly in view if we would maintain or transmit the particular qualities desirable in breeding animals.

#### CHANGES WROUGHT BY SELECTIONS IN BREEDING.

All our domestic animals have been, to a great degree, moulded and fashioned by the hand of man. The same uniformity that now characterizes the bison, the elk and the deer, belonged to the horse, the cow, the sheep and the hog, in a state of nature. The ponderous English cart horse, the fleet courser, and the diminutive Shetland pony, are all descended from originals that were as uniform in their characteristics as are the members of a herd of bison upon our Western prairies. The Short-horn, the Hereford, the Devon, the Jersey, and all of the various breeds into which our cattle are now divided, are descended from the same original type. The changed conditions of life to which they have been subjected by domestication—the variety of uses to which they have been put, the food upon which they have subsisted, the climate in which they have been reared, and selection for especial uses, have produced the variations which are now so apparent.



Very much of this divergence is due to climatic influences, which alone are sufficiently powerful, in the changes of food and of habit which necessarily follow, to account for nearly all the varieties which have been produced. A warm climate and a bountiful supply of nutritious food from birth to maturity promote growth and development, while a scanty supply of food and a rigorous climate have a tendency to retard growth and arrest development. A knowledge of the effects of heat and cold upon growth and development, has been taken advantage of by breeders for the purpose of producing dwarf specimens. The breeder of Bantam fowls is careful to have his chicks hatched late in the season, so that the early approach of cold weather may arrest development. The bleak, barren and tempestuous islands—lying in the high latitude of 59 and 60 degrees—north of Scotland, with their scanty subsistence and long winters, have dwarfed the horse until he appears as the diminutive Shetland pony, while, from the same original, the rich herbage, nutritious grains and mild climate ten degrees further south, on the coast of France, have given us the immense draft horses of Normandy and Flanders.

But while climate and the necessarily accompanying influences have done much to cause the divergence which now exists in races that were once uniform, selection by the hand of man has also been actively at work, in some cases co-operating with the influences of climate, thereby accelerating the transformation, and in others counteracting its effect. We have an illustration of this in the horses of Canada. It is quite evident that the causes that have given us the tough, shaggy Canadian pony, if continued without interruption for a succession of generations, and accelerated by the efforts of breeders in selecting animals for the purpose of reproduction, with the same object constantly in view, would, in course of time, give us a race as diminutive as the ponies of the Shetland Islands. But this climatic influence has been retarded and counteracted by Canadian breeders, who have rejected the smaller specimens for breeding purposes, and have constantly drawn upon the large draft breeds of Europe for fresh crosses. To such an extent has this infusion of fresh blood been carried for twenty-five years past, that the influences of climate have been overpowered, and the progression has been decidedly in the opposite direction. The efforts of Canadian breeders in this direction have been aided materially by the improved condition of agriculture in the Dominion, which has led to a more liberal system of feeding, and more thorough protection from the rigor of the climate. And thus the forces and influences of nature, in some cases aided and in others counteracted by the efforts of man, have constantly been at work breaking up the uniformity which originally characterized all our domestic animals, until divergence from the original type has become, in many instances, truly wonderful.

The influences of selection, in creating divergence from a type singularly uniform, finds a most striking illustration in the case of the domestic pigeon, of which there are now nearly 300 known varieties, more or less distinct, and all descended from the common wild rock pigeon. Among these varieties the divergence is remarkable, not only in the color of the plumage, which in the original is uniform, but in the shape and markings of the various parts. Who would imagine, at first thought, that the Pouters, the Carriers, the Runts,

the Barbs, the Fantails, the Owls, the Tumblers, the Frill-backs, the Jacobins, the Trumpeters, etc., and all their sub-varieties, with differences so strongly marked, are descended from one common parent stock? Yet, that this is true, and that all the varieties from the original type have resulted from changed conditions of life, climatic influences and artificial selection and crossing, is generally admitted by naturalists.

It is a fact well known among swine breeders that the present breed known as the Poland-China or Magie has been established within the past thirty years mainly by one intelligent and careful breeder wholly by the selection of animals embracing the general qualities of his particular breed that have reference to the peculiar points or characteristics which he sought to impress on his stock. He has at length reached a certain style or standard of excellence in type or quality embracing a large number of points for which this breed are noted and by which they are distinguished from all others. Thus, also, has the breed or family of sheep known as the Oxford Downs become established; first, from a cross between two distinct breeds, and then successively by careful selections from those embracing the blood of the two respective families.

The importance of a careful selection of breeding stock can not be over-estimated. It is the magic wand with which the breeder may change at will the form of his stock, and perpetuate qualities that have proven of exceptional value. It has been the principal secret of the success of all who have attained to eminence in the business of breeding, and the most potent of all agents in creating improved breeds.

A careful selection of animals of superior merit is essential to improvement in any breed; and constant attention to the same process is absolutely necessary to prevent deterioration after a breed has been formed. The breeder whose admiration for a particular pedigree or family or breed leads him to use all the animals of his favorite race for breeding purposes, without regard to individual merit, is treading upon dangerous ground; for, notwithstanding the well-established doctrine that the general characteristics of the race are more likely to be transmitted than individual peculiarities, it must always be borne in mind that *these peculiarities are also transmitted* with a greater or less degree of certainty; and that, as we carefully select the best for the purpose of effecting improvement in a breed, we must, with equal care, reject the poorer specimens to prevent retrogression. That the exceptionally bad qualities of an individual are quite as likely to be transmitted as the exceptionally good ones, is as well established as any principle in breeding; and no man who seeks to improve his stock, or even to maintain the degree of excellence already attained, can afford to ignore the importance of a rigid selection of the best.

In no department of stock breeding is the influence of heredity and of patient selection with a view to the transmission and improvement of a desired

quality more apparent, than in the breeding of the trotting horse. Fifty years ago, the American trotting horse, *as a breed*, was unthought of; and one that could trot a mile in less than three minutes was an anomaly—an accidental or spontaneous variation from the established type. But the ability to trot fast was a desirable quality, and breeders sought to perpetuate it. Animals that excelled the average of the species as trotters were selected to breed from, with a view to perpetuating and intensifying this quality; but as its possession was at that time an accident—a spontaneous variation—it was found that but few of the immediate descendants of the animals first chosen with a view to breeding fast trotters, could trot faster than their remote ancestors. But when such of them as did show improvement in this direction were again selected for breeding purposes, and coupled together, it was found that, while there were still many failures, the proportion of the descendants that showed improvement in the trotting gait beyond the average of their ancestors, was increased. And so, by selecting from generation to generation, from such families as have shown a tendency to improvement in this quality, we have made some progress toward founding a breed of trotting horses.

So generally is the attention of the breeders of trotting horses directed to the "bright particular stars" in the trotting firmament, each year, that we lose sight of the immense number of horses that trot in 2:30 to 2:50—a gait that twenty, and even ten years ago, was fast enough to entitle a horse to rank as a creditable performer on the turf; and in our admiration for these great performers we have failed to note the extent to which the *average* speed of the so-called trotting families has been improved. What horseman who has reached the age of forty years can not remember how very rare three-minute trotters were when he was a boy! And yet what a large proportion now trot faster than three minutes!

The extent of the improvement which has been effected will be more apparent by reference to some of our trotting statistics. A list of all the trotters that had made a public record of a mile in 2:30 or better during the year 1872, contained the names of 96 horses; in 1873 it swelled to 106, and in 1874 it included 153 names. During the year 1875 the list was so greatly increased that it numbered 184 horses. In 1876 it reached 225, and in 1877, 284 horses trotted in 2:30 or better.

But when we confine our observation to the faster classes our progress is still more apparent. Up to the opening of the season of 1874, only 62 horses had made a record of 2:25 or better in harness. With the close of 1877 the number had reached 216. The 2:23 class progressed during the same interval, from 24 to 106; the 2:20 class from 9 to 33; and the 2:19 class from 3 to 19—certainly a very encouraging and satisfactory tribute to the skill of American breeders.

The records of the oldest prominent trotting course in America shows a gradual but steady increase in the average speed of all the heats trotted at each meeting, from 1866 down to last season—a period of twelve years. Commencing in 1866 with 2m 38½s as the average time in which all the heats were trotted, it has been gradually lowered, until in 1876 it reached 2:23.

While much of this increase in the average speed of our trotting horses

should, in justice, be attributed to improvement in our vehicles and tracks, and to increased skill in the trainer, yet it is undeniable, that by far the greater portion of it has resulted from increased capacity in our horses, bred for two, three or four generations especially with reference to this quality; and it is worthy of especial remark, that, of the 202 horses with a record of 2:25 or better, whose breeding can be traced even as far as the sire, over 90 per cent. of them are more or less closely related to one or more of our recognized trotting families.

Hence, while chance trotters may occasionally be produced, as of yore, through spontaneous variations, our breeders and trainers have found that by confining themselves to the descendants of three or four well-known trotting families, the probabilities of producing fast trotters are infinitely greater than by going outside, for within these families the trotting gait has been cultivated by selection and use, until heredity has begun to lend its powerful aid in transmitting what was originally a spontaneous or accidental superiority; and the breeder who introduces a single cross in which the trotting gait has not become an inherent quality, only adds to the probabilities of failure, and postpones the day when we shall be able to breed fast trotters with certainty. There is, as yet, no necessity for an outcross to promote strength, endurance, and vigor, for some of our trotting families are, in this respect, the peers of any breed of horses in the world; and there is still sufficient room for selection within these families to correct all the bad effects of close in-breeding.

It may *possibly* be necessary to resort to some crosses outside of these trotting families for improvement in some other quality; but there is no outcross that we can possibly make without danger to the transmission and improvement of the trotting gait. Even those of our trotters that belong to none of the recognized trotting families are almost invariably the result of selection with a view to this faculty. In almost every case of "breeding unknown" we have found that the dam was "a fast trotter." In short, the more thoroughly we investigate the course of breeding that has produced our trotting horses, the more completely does it confirm the theory of breeding from animals that possess the quality we wish to perpetuate.

In the breeding of animals, the one object aimed at is to produce superiority or excellence in the animal for the purpose for which he is produced or kept. The value of a trotting stallion is dependent on his ability to reproduce, in the highest degree, the qualities of speed and endurance, with plenty of game, courage, style and tractability, in his offspring. It makes no difference how excellent, or how indifferent, he may be in all these qualities in himself, his value as a stallion depends on his ability to transmit these qualities. He may never have shown any excellence as a trotter himself, of which the world at large has any reliable information—as in the case of two notable members of the two prominent trotting families—yet his value becomes established when it is known that he is a producer of trotters of superiority.

On the other hand, a stallion may be a trotter of the first quality; he may come of the royal lines of blood all commingling; his pedigree may be as rich as that of the race-horse that stands at the head of the list for four-miles record; but when, after due trial, he and his family, bred in similar manner, have been found universally to fail in reproducing the great qualities for which he is himself distinguished, he practically ceases to have any value as a stallion, and as a gelding he would earn or sell for more money.

Furthermore, experience and observation teach us that in breeding a horse for a great performer on the track or road, we can breed him in some respects unlike what we should if we desired a reproducer of the qualities which constitute a great trotter. The quality and breeding of the sire and the dam enter largely into either case. The sire should have the trotting qualities desired in high degree, and they should be derived from both inheritance and instruction. The dam, if possessed of endurance and pluck, and enough of what we call blood, may be lacking in the inherited trotting quality, yet be capable of producing a trotter of the highest excellence. The dam of Lady Thorn was by Gano, a thoroughbred and a race-horse, and her 2d dam was by a son of a thoroughbred and race-horse, yet there are some horsemen who believe there has been none greater than Lady Thorn. The ready trotting action and habit, in her case, was derived from the sire. That her brother, Mambrino Patchen, possesses in large degree the power of transmitting the trotting quality, proves nothing, as Mambrino Chief gave that faculty to his sons more successfully and more universally than any other of his day. That was his *forte*. In fact, the trotter may be a great performer but lacking in the necessary blood qualities of a sire. Jim Irving was one of the fastest trotters we have yet seen, but he certainly possessed no trotting blood that would have given any promise of success as a sire. He was by Young Melbourne, son of Imported Knight of St. George.

Trustee, the horse who trotted a twenty-mile race, acquired a fame for himself and a reputation for his sire, Imported Trustee, for trotting blood that had no just foundation. His performance was all that could be placed to his credit. It is also clear to my mind that the great trotter, Geo. M. Patchen, was a little too near the outer edge of trotting blood to be really a successful sire, although he had capacity in that line, but far less than we should expect from his great ability as a performer, and the celebrity of his own sire.

Grafton, is another that belongs to the class bred for a performer and not a reproducer.

A horse may also excel as the progenitor of a family of trotting descendants whose own immediate produce are not so noted in the exhibition of speed as in the production of fast performers. The case of Hambletonian and his own sons affords an illustration of this point that is most satisfactory and instructive. The best records attained by any of his own produce are as follows: Dexter, 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Nettie, 2:18; Gazelle, 2:21; Jay Gould, 2:21 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Bella, 2:22; Geo. Wilkes, 2:22; Young Bruno, 2:22 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Lady Banker, 2:23; Jas. Howell, Jr., 2:24; and Mattie, 2:24; only ten with records better than 2:25, out of about thirteen hundred and twenty-five sons and daughters. Volunteer, his son, out of a produce that does not, perhaps, equal one-half the number credited to Hambletonian, has twelve performers who have made records of 2:25 and better, viz.: Gloster, 2:17; Bodine, 2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Huntress, 2:20 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Powers, 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Amy, 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; St. Julien, 2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Trio, 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; W. H. Allen, 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Frank Wood, 2:24; Carrie, 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Alley, 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and Driver, 2:25. Alexander's Abdallah, another son, produced Goldsmith Maid, that has a record of 2:14; Rosalind, 2:21 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Thorndale, 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; and Almont, who produced Allie West, that at the age of five years had a record of 2:25.

But if we take into the account the descendants of each sire to the third and fourth generation, Hambletonian stands immeasurably superior to Volunteer and all other stallions. We believe Volunteer has not more than a single descendant, except his own immediate get, that has a record of better than 2:30, while the old horse has at least ninety-five descendants, *in the male line alone*, that appear in the 2:30 list, and almost every week adds to the number. Judged by the records, therefore, Volunteer stands as the greatest *sire* of trotters, while, as the *progenitor of a family of trotting horses*, his sire, Hambletonian, was very greatly his superior. For all this the great stallion of the family may at some day be found among the sons of Volunteer. The dam has much to do with that question. So universally is this matter understood that the breeder will be deemed a fortunate man who shall produce an animal having the far reaching influence and enduring excellence of Hambletonian, although he never trotted a mile in 2:30, or gave evidence that he was certainly capable of so doing.

In breeding trotters, we must have regard to the ready trotting action, as well as to the lasting and improving capacity. A trotting family must not require that the first elements of their trotting gait shall be taught them; they must have it already by nature and inheritance; but, in addition to this, they must, in order that they attain

unto excellence as trotting sires, have a capacity for long-continued training and a high degree of advancement; hence the two great requisites in a family are, first, the natural and ready trotting gait; and, secondly, the lasting and improving capacity. While a trotter and his dam may possess originally only the latter, the sire, if really a great one, should have, by right of inheritance, both. He will not transmit with certainty that which he does not derive from his blood.

Moreover, it has been also ascertained that some of the most valuable qualities of the trotter are transmitted by either sex with varying degrees of success in different families—in some excelling, and in some failing, in the male line, and in others exactly the reverse. In some of these cases the fact has only been established by repeated experience, and can with difficulty be traced to any satisfactory cause; in others, it is the result of well-known and clearly-understood principles. This fact very greatly affects the value of a stallion. The most notable example of this has been the case of the American Star mares. These were, many of them, superior trotters—as fast as the *thirties* themselves—and as the dams of great ones, from Hambletonian as the sire, their fame is as imperishable as his own, while that of the sons is so far eclipsed as to leave their names in comparative obscurity.

We shall, as we advance further into our subject, find the true philosophy of the fact last stated to be in that quality of the Duroc blood and conformation, which on the female side yields to the trotting qualities of the Messenger sire, but when the sex is reversed runs back in its tendency toward the blood of Diomed, which was totally lacking in trotting quality.

It has been claimed, that of the offspring of Imported Glencoe, the chief value for breeding purposes was in the daughters, and in the case of Hambletonian it has gained some currency that the breeding excellence is only on the male side—but of this more hereafter. The stallions Almont, Administrator, Blackwood and Swigert have assumed great prominence as trotting sires, and it begins to attract some attention that their dams were by Mambrino Chief, and also that the most signal success of the former has been with mares by the same sire; and gradually the opinion is gaining ground, that the fame of the Mambrino Chief blood is yet to rest in the superiority of the female side as the dams of trotters and trotting sires—but of this more hereafter.

When I come to treat of the value of racing blood, or that of the thoroughbred, as infused or to be infused into the trotter or the trot-

ting sire, it will be also seen that the question of sex greatly affects the subject, and as relating to this matter of blood forces, as affected by sex, many illustrations will be given.

Another important fact should also be kept in mind as one of the incidents to this matter of breeding, which might be said to amount to a law or rule, if its limits and operations could at all times be defined or even understood. Its effects are often seen, and this fact is sometimes only known by its visible results, when the causes or principles from which it springs can not clearly be traced. It is what is termed *nicking*, or the readiness with which certain strains of blood unite and produce valuable results; or the certainty with which certain crosses almost invariably either succeed or fail. This is an incident of breeding in all its departments.

In the breeding of trotters there often occurs what may justly be termed a phenomenon—apparent in its results, but often difficult to account for in principle—the case where, in a union of two families of known and positive trotting qualities, the produce totally fails in that one particular in which the sire and dam both excel. The case is similar to that of two powerful acids or chemicals that, separately, prove destructive to many material substances with which they may come in contact, but united, the joint product is totally harmless—the one entirely neutralizing the other, and thus two very powerful agents, by a union, forming an inert and worthless substance. Such is often the case in breeding trotters from families of fixed type, each having in themselves fixed and valuable characteristics.

The case of the Bellfounder and Abdallah blood in some respects furnishes an illustration of this fact, although this may strike some of my readers as a rather rash announcement. Hambletonian himself, great as he deservedly stands, and will continue to stand, in a fame and a reputation that eclipses all others, contemporary or anterior, was limited in the range of his successes, beyond doubt, by the very combination of that Bellfounder and Abdallah blood which made him great. The union of these two elements operated to withhold his great excellence in many instances, owing to the fitness of the component parts for the particular cross not being then, and perhaps not now, understood—the one refusing to impart its own or to receive the good qualities of the other. In this respect, there is no doubt that the Bellfounder blood, as has been charged, did often work against the blood of Abdallah. And this was further exemplified in the immediate crossing of Hambletonian with mares of Bellfounder blood; in



such cases the lock was still more complete. The results of such re-crossing have not been worth recording, (except in the lesson taught), notwithstanding the Bellfounder stock, as trotting stock, were of no ordinary reputation for grand and powerful trotting action, not equaled, perhaps, by that of any other then existing. The real value and effect of this Bellfounder cross in Hambletonian is, perhaps, so imperfectly understood in all its relations and tendencies as to cause many to regard it as worthless and positively hurtful, while another class esteem it the really valuable cross in this now great and popular family.

Hambletonian has been called the key that unlocked the excellence of the Star mares. The real fact is, that the Star mares were the key that unlocked the veteran old horse, and liberated the treasures that the Bellfounder blood had shut up in him. It is beyond doubt, in great part owing to this Bellfounder cross—valuable though it is—that Hambletonian is so uncertain and so unequal in the results of his produce—but of this more at the proper time.

The Mambrino and Pilot cross is one noted for bold and free trotting action, yet I have great doubt whether stallions of this cross will not totally fail when bred to mares of the Hambletonian families, although the reverse may be looked to for very valuable results. Such is the fickleness of the matter of sex in many cases.

When it is borne in mind that the Hambletonian family is one of a very fixed type, and very strong and positive in blood, and that a female of such character does not readily yield her individuality in an outcross with one of inferior blood, we will readily understand why these mares are not successful when crossed with Mambrino and Pilot, or other stallions of a lower grade of blood. The same principle explains the ready success of the majority of the sons of Hambletonian when crossed with the lower-bred mares of Mambrino and Pilot grades.

Again, the strictly thoroughbred mares, from the rigid and fixed caste of their blood, refuse to yield to the Bellfounder element in Hambletonian, and do not cross well with any of his sons, except when an intermediate cross has intervened that serves as an alchemy to dissolve and assimilate that otherwise obstinate element. Whenever Volunteer has attained any mastery in the cross with a thoroughbred mare, he owes it to the intermediate agency of his Patriot dam.

In this matter of one sex transmitting certain qualities which are not transmitted alike by the opposite sex, were it not a fact within the observation of every breeder of experience, it would afford no

greater anomaly than the case of Edward Lambert, whose body was covered with the horny excrescences. He transmitted this peculiarity to his sons but not to his daughters, and it was likewise transmitted, by his only son of the six who survived, to his sons, but not by his daughters nor to any of the female descendants. It was transmitted through the male line for six generations and then disappeared.

As closely connected with this subject, it is highly proper also to advert to the fact that it very frequently occurs that one gait is materially modified by crossing with another family possessing a good but different style of action. It is reasonable to suppose that the colt would possess a gait somewhat different from each of his parents, but sometimes it results that the way of going is highly defective. I will not stop here to treat of the true trotting gait, but it will be sufficient for my purpose to say that if, in the case of two different gaits, each in no special way objectionable, the joint produce should show abundance of trotting action, but at the same time of such faulty kind as to require art and the appliances of skillful treatment to remedy that defect, there may be a direct loss instead of a positive gain. The resort to weights to balance up a trotter and cause him to go level and steady may accomplish the object, but the necessity for such a resort is a loss.

A trotter should go level and steady before and behind, and he should not be a sprawler, although such defect can in great part be overcome by skillful treatment; but there is great loss of motion and power in all such cases. Economy is the great law of life in all its departments—economy of forces, of resources, and also in results. A colt must not trot too high nor too low in front, and he must not do all his trotting with his forelegs. Here comes the great difficulty to be apprehended at all times in crossing the Morgan family, with their high-knee action, or the Pilots and Mambrinos, with their wide-open, almost sprawling action, on Hambletonians and others that excel in their even, true stride, passing over great lengths with little show of trotting action. The results of such crossing are apparent already in some very notable quarters, and will in time detract greatly from some of the most popular families now before the public.

In close connection with this part of the subject, it must be kept in mind, at all times, that it often occurs in breeding various kinds of domestic animals that certain qualities develop or disappear, strengthen or weaken when they encounter certain crosses. This often

occurs irrespective of the value or nature of the quality. It seems that particular soils are favorable to its development and growth, and this often when there is no similarity of tendency in the soil in which the peculiarity starts or grows. Thus the heavy shoulders and hind-quarters of Hambletonian come from the Bellfounder cross; it is a peculiarity entirely foreign to the Abdallah family, yet its development in the case of Hambletonian and some of his sons far surpasses the same development in Brown's Bellfounder or any of his stock. The representatives of the Bellfounder family, wherever found, so far as any of that stock exist, show their resemblance in part to that feature of their original, but in no case to the extent found in Hambletonian and some of his sons. The germ came from the Bellfounder, but it greatly progressed in the soil of Abdallah and Messenger, where none of it previously existed. It can hardly be supposed any one will be found who will claim that this is an anatomical structure as exhibited in its largest proportions, that is favorable to speed, although one of great strength. Likewise, often a mare will be found to produce colts with a certain quality not visible in herself—as speed, or a peculiarity of gait—a good or bad quality, and this quality, thus originating from an unknown cause, will develop and increase in the offspring of such colts. Thus sometimes very valuable traits originate, and also serious defects, which are very difficult to eradicate. One of the distinguished sons of Hambletonian exhibits a narrowness of foot, particularly at the heel, which to the most casual observer must be regarded as objectionable. The same peculiarity is exhibited in all of his offspring that have come under my observation. On inquiry, I am informed that his dam, one of the most distinguished trotters this country ever produced, went lame from the same cause. Hambletonian and his family generally have very superior feet.

The pacing gait in the Cadmus family began with Iron's Cadmus, and seems to have been derived from his dam. Cadmus, the sire, had no more pacing blood in him than American Eclipse, his sire; yet the pacing tendency of all the descendants of Iron's Cadmus shows that in him it started and became part of the blood, bone, or brain, or wheresoever the quality rests—of which more hereafter. Thus, also, the *quitting* characteristics of some of the Clays, from which the reputation of a family, otherwise one of the best, has suffered so much, evidently came from such a source. It has been generally regarded as coming from the low breeding of the Surrey mare, the dam of Henry Clay, and that it consists of a lack of breeding—a want of

bottom; but this can not be the case. Two crosses of thorough blood often make a dam capable of throwing a trotter such as Lady Thorn or Dexter, no matter how insignificant the stock was anterior to that point; and while the performances and the breeding of George M. Patchen guarantee his blood to be beyond any lack of bottom, the quitting tendency in some of the Clays proves it to be a deep-seated trait of character, rooted in the mental or nervous organization, and not in any lack of stamina. It is not because they can't, but because they won't. All such traits are deep-seated and very difficult to eradicate.

We have lately heard much of the Clay cross in the Hambletonian family, that has gone far to redeem the Clays from the odium which for awhile attached to them; but upon this, as on many other branches of the subject, great ignorance is displayed by many of those who write for the edification of the public. A clear analysis of the so-called Clay cross in each instance will perhaps show that the success of the union has been in no certain degree attributable to a single element of the Clay blood, properly so called. Of this subject I shall treat very fully when I come to the proper place to deal with the branches of those families respectively, where the peculiarities of these two elements have been most clearly manifested.

In the breeding of horses—and perhaps of other animals—it must always be borne in mind that the union of diverse elements involves at all stages a contest for *supremacy of blood forces*. The peculiar qualities of one blood may appear to prevail, while another may be apparently overcome; yet at subsequent stages, or in different unions, either owing to reinforcement or modification of these forces from other causes, the relative positions of the several elements become reversed—that which was predominant assumes a position secondary to that which had before been insignificant. A quality that was apparently absent, but in reality dormant and concealed, often shines out with great lustre in connection with elements that seem to have no apparent fitness or adaptation to calling out such peculiar manifestations.

It is a fact also established in breeding that certain qualities have a tendency to prevail, if coming from a male, over other qualities, coming from a female, but which do not thus assert this tendency when the respective sexes are reversed. Thus the Diomed blood, concerning which most erroneous estimates have prevailed, is an element in the composition of a trotting sire whose influence at all times tends toward an abatement or deterioration of the trotting quality, but

which can be and has proved in the dams of trotters a factor of appreciated value. It is also true beyond doubt that the Bellfounder blood, when united with that of Messenger, found its true place at all times when presented in the composition of the dam, as in the case of Hambletonian, King Phillip, and all the distinguished produce of mares by Sayer's Harry Clay, and in the case of Harry Clay himself. It may not be easy to explain why this peculiarity exists, but the fact is established by many examples.

In the subsequent chapters of this volume attention will be called to the fact, that the class of blood coming from the union of that of Messenger and Duroc, and termed Duroc-Messenger, has this quality in an eminent degree, that it displays great success when presented in a trotting combination on the side of the dam, but as such fails of its chief excellence when presented on the side of the sire, where the dam is strong either in Messenger or Bellfounder blood. This may be regarded by some as savoring of mysticism, but to all such I present the case of Edward Lambert and his sons for six generations, and when the facts in that case are refuted or their philosophy explained, we shall be prepared to understand why it is that sires to succeed with mares of a certain composition should themselves possess certain blood traits in preference to others.

Another important truth, known to many, but apparently understood by few, is that in breeding trotters from thoroughbred dams, or mares that are strong in the blood of the thoroughbred, the offspring are apt to display the known precocity of the thoroughbred in regard to their earliness of maturity, in the matter of trotting excellence, but fail to retain it, or at least fail to improve with age. One family in particular, where a Duroc-Messenger sire attained a most brilliant reputation as the sire of young trotters, and was particularly distinguished by the attractive and showy gaits of his produce from thoroughbred mares, but whose fame would now be regarded as resting on slender supports indeed if he had nothing to show but his list of 2:30 trotters descended from mares thus bred.

The explanation of all this is found in the fact that the blood of Diomed, whose tendency at all times is against the trotting quality, when it was reinforced by the same or by kindred strains coming from thoroughbred mares, worked against the real trotting quality in the animal produced, and in spite of the early appearances which gave so much of promise, the horse at maturity was not a trotter. The produce of Mambrino Patchen and Woodford Mambrino from thorough-

bred mares can not be embraced in the list of trotters, unless in rare instances. The tendency was to work back toward the original blood, and that was the blood of a race-horse and not a trotter.

In this connection the following extracts are both suggestive and full of sound philosophy:

It is one of the principles of heredity, that when there is great uniformity in a species, divergences from the usual type in the offspring are slight and rare; but when this uniformity, from no matter what cause, has been broken up, divergences in the offspring are frequent and great, although there is always present a tendency, more or less powerful, to revert to the original type. This tendency is most frequently manifested when breeds or races, widely differing in their present forms, are crossed upon each other. In such cases, or violent crosses, as they are called, it frequently happens that the progeny resembles neither parent, but shows strong marks of the type from which both of its ancestors originally sprung. Darwin, in his work, already referred to, gives numerous illustrations of this tendency to reversion, in his experiments with pigeons of various breeds and colors, one of which we quote, as follows:

"I paired a mongrel female barb-fantail with a mongrel male barb-spot; neither of which mongrels had the least blue about them. Let it be remembered that blue barbs are excessively rare; that spots, as has been already stated, were perfectly characterized in the year 1676, and breed perfectly true; this likewise is the case with white fantails, so much so that I have never heard of white fantails throwing any other color. Nevertheless the offspring from the above two mongrels were of exactly the same blue tint as that of the wild rock-pigeon, from the Shetland Islands, over the whole back and wings; the double black wing-bars were equally conspicuous; the tail was exactly alike in all its characters, and the croup was pure white; the head, however, was tinted with a shade of red, evidently derived from the spot, and was of a paler blue than in the rock-pigeon, as was the stomach. So that two black barbs, a red spot, and a white fantail, as the four purely-bred grandparents, produced a bird of the same general blue color, together with every characteristic mark, as in the wild *Columba livia*."

This tendency to reversion in different breeds of domestic animals when crossed, accounts for many of the disappointments which breeders experience in their efforts to improve their stock, and serves greatly to complicate the breeding problem.

This matter may be of some importance to those amateur breeders who are constantly demanding that we should have more frequent recurrence to the blood of the thoroughbred to give stamina and high quality to our roadsters, and is thrown in here as germane to the subject particularly under consideration, although the topic last referred to is specially treated in a subsequent chapter.

Another important truth is very frequently overlooked—not being

really understood by many and only to be learned by experience and close observation—namely, that the transmission of certain qualities, good or bad, for which a given family is noted, does not always proceed in direct proportion to the quantum or arithmetical proportion of the blood of such family represented in the animal employed.

Thus, the trotting quality of the Messenger and Bellfounder families is not in many cases transmitted by sires with six separate lines of the blood of either of these sires with a force equal to that displayed by Rhode Island, a remote descendant of a daughter of Messenger, and embracing but this single and remote line of his blood and no known trotting quality aside from that thus derived.

In like manner, the tendency of the Duroc blood toward infirmity in the matter of spavins, curbs and ringbones is often transmitted in a single line or smaller number of the same with great force and virulence, while other families and animals showing a larger quantum of that blood are apparently free from all taint or infirmity.

This latter feature is contrary to the general rule, which is ordinarily safely followed, namely, that the good or bad qualities of a family will transmit in direct and arithmetical proportion (to a great extent) to the quantum of such blood possessed by the animal employed, and that such tendencies are reinforced and invigorated by successive reunions of separate lines of such blood after the same has been departed from for a period. By this method, the best and most distinguished results have been attained in the breeding of trotters.

#### CROSS-BREEDING.

It must be also kept in mind, that all trotting blood is not alike, and that the blood of different trotting families is not so far homogeneous that they may be employed to reinforce each other. They are as likely to counteract as to aid in securing trotting excellence. Hence it is, that we sometimes find a horse so bred as to embrace the blood of every distinguished trotting family known among breeders, and his failure as a trotter or breeder is not less complete than is the list of trotting crosses embraced in his pedigree.

A pedigree may embrace very little and yet be borne by a good horse, and it may embrace the blood of every eminent trotter or noted family in the land, yet but adorn an animal of no value whatever as a performer or breeder.

Nothing is so common as a pedigree parading crosses of all the noted trotting families, which the owner exhibits with entire confi-

dence that it embraces all the excellencies that have appeared in our past or present experience in breeding trotters. The utter failure of the colt, either as a trotter, or a reproducer of trotting excellence, is at length reached, but only serves to impress his breeder with the profound conviction that the whole business is a matter of chance—a lottery of the most absolute uncertainty. He is assured by some of the learned ones that trotters go in all forms—and he overlooks the important fact that they also go in all sorts of ways, as the legitimate and inevitable result of their multifarious forms—and that these ways of going, and these diverse forms are the legitimate and inevitable result of physical conformation, and nerve or mental traits that are not only dissimilar, but often operate in dissimilar ways in breeding—often operate against each other—are often inharmonious in their combinations, and, as a consequence, in their results. Hence, the end of his great hopes and wonderful expectations is a sad and unprofitable failure.

We cross-breed too much, and do not sufficiently study the question of harmony in the physical and nerve traits that we combine in our efforts to produce the trotter. That one conformation or one mental organism may be modified by combining with it another of dissimilar elements, is most certainly true; and this can often be done with the best of results—but it can only be done by a union of elements that will, when united, or while uniting, tend or work in the direction of harmony toward a point that contains the conditions of successful operation. By this method, a defective physical conformation may be relieved, and in great part cured; and a disturbed, or deficient, or illy balanced temperament or nerve organism may be quieted or stimulated to the point or degree called for in the level-headed and strong-willed trotting champion.

In some families, the anatomical or muscular conformation may be defective or deficient; the front cannon-bones may be too short or too long—the same may be the case with the forearm, or the thigh, or the length of sweep from hip to hock. There are families which possess deficiencies or excesses in each of these particulars; all of which can, to a great degree, and perhaps to the degree requisite for complete success, be corrected by judicious selections and crossing; but the first condition essential to such a process, is a knowledge of the exact state of the defect which it is necessary to correct. This involves the study and knowledge of diverse physical and mental proportions and conformation; a matter which is so exceedingly novel, almost incompre-



hensible and passing strange to some of our very learned ones, who have for a long time taught us horse lore, that the bare proposition to ascertain by actual measure and comparison the relative proportions of different animals is received as something that should stagger and disturb the equilibrium of these staid and deeply philosophical minds. The real fact is, that there is nothing so dishonest as sheer ignorance, and nothing so willfully ignorant as downright dishonesty.

I can, in this connection, appeal to the well-known fact that our great trotters or trotting sires do not, as a general rule, come from the long and brilliantly drawn out pedigrees. Take the stallions from some distinguished sire, and from dams whose pedigrees are six to eight generations deep—every link bringing out the name of some distinguished family or animal—and these are generally failures. But Hambletonian, from the mare by Patriot, has produced the first trotting sire of America; and from the mare by Bay Roman he produced the renowned sire of Goldsmith Maid, Almont and Thorndale; from Princess he produced Happy Medium; from Sally Feagles he produced Peacemaker. Amazonia produced Abdallah; and the dams of Blackwood, Thomas Jefferson, Smuggler, Dexter, Startle, Mambrino Chief, Lady Thorn, Ericsson, Clark Chief, and the most of our great trotters and trotting stallions, were short-pedigree mares; while, as before stated, the long-pedigreed stallions have not generally been very successful—almost proving that one good mare is better than half a dozen, and most clearly showing that one good mare is more reliable than a long pedigree, and of far more value. And in this connection, let me ask the question, why is it that so many of our short-pedigreed and part-bred mares that have no trotting crosses whatever, have been so noted as the dams of great trotters from this and that particular sire?

Why is it that so many trotting stallions of strong and positive trotting quality have succeeded so well as sires with fair road mares not noted for great trotting qualities, and generally coming from one or two thoroughbred crosses—such, for example, as the dams of Lady Thorn, Lula, May Queen, Music, Lady Stout, Lucy, Pilot Jr., John Morgan, Jenny, Woodford Mambrino, Brignoli, Jim Porter, Molsey, Great Eastern, Grafton, and many other superior trotters? To the mind of the intelligent breeder the answer is very obvious. These mares had the blood, the stamina, the highly organized nervous temperament, to give the trotter high quality in all these respects; and at the same time they carried in themselves no positive, deeply-bred and

immovable trotting tendencies or inclinations of their own to conflict with, combat, or stand in the way of those of the trotting stallions with which they are crossed. Hence, the stallion had his own way in this matter of gait and other trotting elements. Hence, Lady Thorn, Woodford Mambrino and Brignoli were Mambrinos; Lucy was a Patchen; Lady Stont is gaited like all the produce of her sire; Ericsson and Clark Chief differ from all the other sons of Mambrino Chief, for the reason that Mrs. Caudle and her daughter, while good mares to cross with the Chief, yet had trotting blood and ways of their own that they refused to yield to him. Hence, these two families have their own type. But it does not absolutely follow that long and rich pedigrees may not be found in the dams of our best trotters and trotting stallions, provided the breeder will carefully study the characteristics, both mental and physical, that enter into his chosen combination. Unless this is done—and in most instances it is not—the result will be failure.

Violent or remote crosses must be avoided, for the very reason that they will bring together elements both of physical conformation and nervous organism that will not harmonize, but will operate against and neutralize each other.

The question, how shall we cross-breed so as to prevent our stock from degenerating, and at the same time bring no disturbance of the harmony of the physical and nervous organism of our trotting stock, is of great importance, and one which calls for the exercise of the greatest circumspection and intelligent discrimination.

The following brief extract from a lecture by an eminent divine of our own country, affords a text that has some force and may be studied to advantage by the breeder of our trotting horse:

The marriage of highly-gifted persons of different lines of descent, is a method of improving the upper, but only the upper, that is, the most intellectual and virtuous, portion of the human family.

This being applied to the subject under review means plainly, that in making our selections for breeding purposes with a view to freshening up or re-invigorating the blood of our animals, we should at no time descend to a low or ill-bred cross. While all foreign and very remote or dissimilar crosses should be avoided, we should in making our selections, at all times look to the elevation of our strains of blood, and have a jealous eye against anything that could debase or lower our standards. We have done that in the past, in the infancy of our trotting breeds in some of the Canadian elements of blood that were

far too cold and uncongenial, but from their intermixture with our other lines of blood, although not up to the highest standard of excellence, they are now far preferable as a resort to any new importations or other low-bred or distant removes from our American standard. In our Abdallahs, Hambletonians, Champions, Clays, or Bashaws, and Mambrinos, as at present crossed with the Pilots, St. Lawrences, Morgans, Pacers, and other stock as bred and intermingled for the past fifty years, we have an abundant range for selection without ever introducing a single new or foreign or low-bred element into our trotting families. With sufficient care and discrimination we can and should render our trotting stock more and more homogeneous and uniform in their style and standard of excellence each year, and at the same time hold them in range far enough removed as to avoid the ill effect of too close in-breeding. It must, however, be clearly stated in this connection, that the one great danger from violent outcrossing in our breed of trotting horses, is in the discordant or conflicting elements of gait and temperament that may be thereby introduced. Outcrossing, if not with low or ill-bred stock, often seems to add greatly to the physical and nervous development of a family, in all that pertains to size, vigor and health, and in many cases the greatest and most valuable results have accrued from such unions.

The present elements of Pilot blood in our trotting horse—a very valuable element indeed—have come to us as the result of a very violent cross, but one that fused well and became thoroughly assimilated, and as such forms a union with almost any blood with which it unites, in the same harmony which it displayed in the first union.

Mr. Darwin, the eminent English naturalist, on the general subject of cross-breeding, uses the following language:

The crossing of distinct forms, whether closely or distantly allied, gives increased size and constitutional vigor, and, except in the case of crossed species, increased fertility, to the offspring. The evidence rests on the universal testimony of breeders (for it should be observed that I am not here speaking of the evil results of close interbreeding), and is practically exemplified in the higher value of cross-bred animals for immediate consumption. The good results of crossing have also been demonstrated, in the case of some animals and of numerous plants, by actual weight and measurement. Although animals of pure blood will obviously be deteriorated by crossing, so far as their characteristic qualities are concerned, there seems to be no exception to the rule, that advantages of the kind just mentioned are thus gained, even when there has not been any previous close interbreeding. The rule applies to all animals, even to cattle and sheep, which can long resist breeding in-and-in

between the nearest blood relations. It applies to individuals of the same sub-variety but of distinct families, to varieties or races, to sub-species, as well as to quite distinct species.

In this latter case, however, whilst size, vigor, precocity and hardiness are, with rare exceptions, gained, fertility, in a greater or less degree, is lost; but the gain can not be exclusively attributed to the principle of compensation; for there is no close parallelism between the increased size and vigor of the offspring and their sterility. Moreover it has been clearly proved that mongrels which are perfectly fertile gain these same advantages as well as sterile hybrids.

#### IN-BREEDING.

In close relation to the subject last under consideration is that of In-Breeding—with reference to its advantages and the dangers that attend it or result from its pursuit. Much is written and said on this subject, and every amateur is ready to propound his maxim as the embodiment of all the current philosophy relating to that branch of breeding science. Two general truths are known to exist touching this question; first, that in-breeding seems to secure and fix the good or desirable qualities in a given breed or class of animals, and second, that in-breeding too closely causes degeneracy, and results in deterioration and loss of quality; that this latter, if persisted in, is far-reaching and almost unlimited in the extent of the injury which it will achieve.

To those who speak from actual knowledge of the subject derived from experience and a study of the department in which they are engaged, it is not an easy question in all cases to determine how in-breeding shall be conducted in order that the best and most permanent advantages may be gained in the way of infixing or so stamping the qualities desired as to make them permanent and hereditarily transmissible in high degree, without, at the same time, in any way impairing the vigor and higher quality of the nervous organism or the physical stamina of the animal or family.

The blood of animals seems like the air we breathe—the very use of it contaminates it, and it requires new elements to restore the purity and force which each successive draught absorbs from the source of supply. Consanguinity is the hotbed in which all the blood impurities of a race are brought to early maturity.

Mr. Darwin has written a letter to the *English Agricultural Gazette*, from which I extract the following:

Sexual reproduction is so essentially the same in plants and animals, that I think we may fairly apply conclusions drawn from the one kingdom to the other.

From a long series of experiments on plants, given in my book *On the Effects of Cross and Self-Fertilization*, the conclusion seems clear that there is no mysterious evil in the mere fact of the nearest relations breeding together; but that evil follows (independently of inherited disease or weakness) from the circumstance of near relations generally possessing a closely similar constitution. However little we may be able to explain the cause, the facts detailed by me show that the male and female sexual elements must be differentiated to a certain degree, in order to unite properly, and to give birth to a vigorous progeny. Such differentiation of the sexual elements follows from the parents and their ancestors having lived some generations under different conditions of life.

The closest interbreeding does not seem to induce variability or a departure from the typical form of the race or family, but it causes loss of size, of constitutional vigor in resisting unfavorable influences, and often of fertility. On the other hand, a cross between plants of the same sub-variety, which have been grown during some generations under different conditions, increases to an extraordinary degree the size and vigor of the offspring.

Some kinds of plants bear self-fertilization much better than others; nevertheless it has been proved that these profit greatly by a cross with a fresh stock. So it appears to be with animals, for Short-horn cattle—perhaps all cattle—can withstand close interbreeding with very little injury; but if they could be crossed with a distinct stock without any loss of their excellent qualities, it would be a most surprising fact if the offspring did not also profit in a very high degree in constitutional vigor. If, therefore, any one chose to risk breeding from an animal which suffered from some inheritable disease or weakness, he would act wisely to look out, not merely for a perfectly sound animal of the other sex, but for one belonging to another strain, which had been bred during several generations at a distant place, under as different conditions as to soil, climate, etc., as possible, for in this case he might hope that the offspring, by having gained in constitutional vigor, would be enabled to throw off the taint in their blood.

As it seems to be a law of nature, and particularly of animal existence, that every organism carries within itself the seeds of decay—the elements of decline—so the law of heredity looks constantly in the direction of concentrating infirmity and hastening dissolution. To counteract this, is part of the province of drawing fresh supplies in the way of outcrossing, and the process of breeding in this regard is a revival of the contest between the two forces of conservatism and progression. But this same conservatism in nature and in animal existence is a law of decline, and can only be successfully combated by a resort to the other, or law of progressive re-enforcement. And the grand plane of successful breeding is reached when the breeder shall at the same time and by the same processes both re-enforce the constitutional vigor and nervous energy of his

stock and concentrate or intensify the peculiar excellences or qualities which give the chief value to his breed or families of animals sought to be produced. By such a process, improvements are real and substantial, and a gain of one quality is not a loss of another.

It is irrational and unphilosophical to say that we can in-breed to the extent of a certain number of crosses and then must outcross a certain and fixed number by way of counteracting the injurious effect of the first attempt. It is as unwise to say twice in and once out, as once in and twice out.

It is best to follow the true maxim, that each return to the same blood is deleterious and to be avoided, if the same good qualities can be secured by a union with a blood that is similar in the good qualities sought and free from the taint or imperfection that must exist in the source last drawn from.

The converse of the maxim is also as safe, and may be expressed thus,—that it is a positive loss to go away or depart from the good qualities sought or desired, and thus to weaken and impair their force, if such departure is not rendered necessary by the impurity of the source from whence your supply has been drawn, to such an extent as to create more loss in health and vigor by again drawing therefrom, than by the introduction of new supplies elsewhere found. Hence, it is always safe and desirable to draw new supplies from such source, if the same can be found, as will both re-enforce the bodily or nervous vigor or health of the animal, and at the same time reinvigorate or add to the accumulated force of the given qualities sought to be perpetuated and intensified.

Before proceeding to the practical application of these principles to the breeding of our trotting horses, I insert here a slip taken from the same lecture of an eminent divine before adverted to, as follows:

The intermarriage of highly gifted relatives tends to diminish rather than to increase the ability of the race.

Neibuhr says that aristocracies, when obliged to recruit their numbers among themselves, fall into decay, and often into insanity, dementia and imbecility. Who does not know that this truth might be illustrated by vast ranges of historical knowledge, were there time here for the presentation of details? The Lagidæ and Seleucidæ for ten hundred years intermarried, and through nine hundred years were in a process of mysterious decay. Who does not know that it was the feeling of many of our revolutionary fathers that half the thrones of Europe were filled by persons more or less erratic on account of descending from relatives? It was one of the propositions of Jef-

person, often talked about in private, that the thrones of Europe were filled with imbeciles, the results of consanguineous marriages. The rule of the Church of England to-day on this topic is more strict than has been that of some decayed royal houses.

It is within the observation of every breeder that his stock deteriorates in quality with great rapidity if he breeds from inferior animals or those low in point of quality.

Selections, to maintain standards of excellence, must at all times be from the best. But even with this precaution, respect must also be had to the degree of consanguinity that exists between the animals interbred. It is known that some classes of animals retrograde from in-breeding more rapidly than others—as, for example, the Dorking fowls, most likely from the fact that not a large number of them exist, and they have been bred a long time, and hence they are of necessity more closely related than if they had only recently been originated from diverse materials.

The high or low quality of the stock bred from also affects the question, as in low-bred stock the impurities of blood form so large a ratio of the whole that a very short period of interbreeding suffices to indelibly fix the marks of decay, while superiority of blood, or that which possesses in itself great vigor and healthfulness, enables a stock to endure much and close in-breeding before the evidences of decline are apparent. It is well understood that in-breeding to a close degree has been practiced among the breeders of Short-horns in this country and in England—the result of which has been to establish a standard of great excellence as to certain valuable points, but at the expense of a sacrifice of the constitutional vigor of the race. It is well known that barrenness, both in males and females, has become so common as to amount almost to a characteristic; they are no longer a family remarkable for longevity, or the size of the carcass, that once distinguished members of the family not bred up to the most fashionable standards.

Our thoroughbred horses are all bred from the original blood of the desert, but having a large number of animals to breed from, a large range of families not closely akin, and all of a high standard of blood, the skillful breeders of England and America have been able to improve the standards of excellence so far that the race-horse has grown from an animal fourteen and a half hands high to one sixteen and a half hands, and of great power and perfection. Probably no family of animals ever produced surpassed in blood purity and inherent

constitutional vigor the horses which are the immediate descendants of Imported Messenger—yet there can be no doubt of the fact that in some instances, close in-breeding has reduced the size and impaired the nerve force and other high qualities for which that blood was so eminent. It had in itself so much vitality, so much inherent purity and excellence, that it could infuse vigor and advancement into any cross with which it came in contact, and could also counteract the impurities of other bloods, and resist decay longer than almost any other strains ever known to the American breeder; nevertheless it is apparent that instances are within our sight which clearly demonstrate that even this magical blood has been too closely interbred in parts of this country.

Hambletonian was one of the best bred horses we have ever seen; he was an in-bred horse—but not too closely in-bred, in view of the quality of the Messenger blood. His dam was an outcross, but his granddam was in-bred, and his sire was in-bred, being undoubtedly, to my mind, a grandson of Messenger, with three or more crosses of the blood of that horse. But the effect of an outcross of great vigor in his dam, a daughter of Imported Bellfounder, gave him a strong cast of that blood, and made of him a horse of great quality, substance and power, and having at the same time so much in-breeding in the blood of Messenger, it gave him great force as a sire. But while he was not too closely in-bred himself, it is clear that his produce from any mare by Abdallah or any other equally strong in the blood of Messenger, would be too closely in-bred, and the diminished size and other qualities would show the want of an intermediate outcross. His Bellfounder cross gave him a thigh 24 inches in length, and a length from hip to hock of 41 inches, but the uniformity with which he bred back to the smaller standard of 23 and 39, showed the mastery of the strong currents of Messenger blood.

His best produce were those not positively strong or near in either Messenger or Bellfounder blood, although none equaled those of that blood when it was also crossed with other bloods, so far as to maintain its vigor and counteract the inevitable tendency toward decline. The blood of Trustee, Henry, Duroc, and many unknown crosses combined with that of Messenger, formed the fields in which he excelled in the highest degree. It is often said he excelled in Messenger blood, and certainly his best efforts were not outside of that blood, but it was so far in combination with other even unknown bloods, that it was beyond the boundary of close interbreeding. That the great



popularity of his family, and particularly of the blood of Abdallah, has caused much objectionable interbreeding of recent years, is unquestionable. I think no half brothers or sisters should in any case be interbred—no daughter of Hambletonian with a son of that horse—while one remove further may be regarded as far enough and be looked to for valuable results. Messenger Duroc and Knickerbocker were from granddaughters of Abdallah, and Florida was from a daughter of Volunteer, all large and valuable stallions, while King Philip, by Jay Gould, from a daughter of Hambletonion, showed speed and a concentration of the trotting quality as might be expected up to a certain degree, but in being far smaller than either of his parents, he bore testimony to the correctness of the principles here maintained.

I bought in New York a most promising colt by Florida, first dam by Volunteer, second dam by Daniel Webster, son of Long Island Blackhawk, third dam by Abdallah. He was a very beautiful colt and exhibited great excellence in temper and trotting quality, but that he was too closely in-bred both to Volunteer and Abdallah was apparent. His sire and dam were both of great substance and strong in bone and joint. His bone was far too light and his joints were not satisfactory. He died from typhoid fever; and his full sister, lacking in the vigor and perfection of either her sire or dam, is also dead, before either reached the age of three years. Although fine in every point of good breeding, they each manifested a delicacy of constitution not exhibited by either sire or dam.

A stallion too closely in-bred may be a valuable breeder, and may show great vital energy and be successful in his outcrosses, but it will affect his own size, and perhaps many other qualities, when the influences of such in-breeding are not so perceptible. Lakeland Abdallah and Harold are both good breeding stallions and their outcrosses are often large, although their own lack of size bears evidence to the truth that they were too closely in-bred.

An incident recently came before me, which forcibly illustrates what I have frequently seen, and which is valuable as conveying its own lesson. A paper was shown me containing the alleged pedigree and produce of a mare called Miss Elliott, bred in the State of Iowa. She was granddaughter of the mare known as the Elliott mare, dam of Tramp, that was alleged to be by Abdallah, but the fact has been disputed. The pedigree was exhibited as showing many crosses of Messenger blood, which would be the case if the Elliott mare was by

Abdallah, but the lesson in regard to in-breeding was the same, as the mare was closely in-bred to the Elliott mare, whatever she was. This Elliott mare from Greene's Bashaw as the sire, produced a stallion named Peacock. From Gage's Logan she produced the stallion Tramp, and a filly, full sister. This sister of Tramp was bred to the son of Bashaw and produced Miss Elliott. Hence she was by the half brother of her own dam, and the Elliott mare was granddam on both sides. Miss Elliott, this in-bred mare, was then bred for two seasons to Tramp, the full brother of her own dam, and the record for each year's foal was, "*dead*." A proper record and fit commentary upon the intelligence displayed in such breeding.

Several close crosses of Hambletonian blood will be fashionable in a pedigree for the present and near future—but I want not more than two until I have a proper outcross, of course not a violent or absolutely foreign outcross, but one that possesses some new elements to relieve the drain upon the pure currents of the old blood. There is no difficulty in this matter in our country as our families now stand. We have so many kindred strains whose affinity is far enough away to afford relief for each other that we have no need of close interbreeding nor of any resort to foreign or violent outcrosses. Our breeding may remain entirely homogeneous, and wholly maintain its vigor, even increased and improved, as we have done in the thoroughbred. But ~~this~~ will only be attained by an adherence to sound principles and a due observance of the laws of outcrossing and interbreeding.

I am aware that of recent years many have advocated close in-breeding, especially in the blood of Abdallah, and have pointed to Goldsmith Maid, Messenger Duroc, and some others, as illustrations, but the breeders have not stopped with the degree of in-breeding exhibited in these animals. These were not close in the sense in which I here speak of it. Hambletonian has received many Abdallah mares, and Messenger Duroc and other sons of Hambletonian have received daughters of Hambletonian, but no really great horse has descended from any such incestuous breeding.

Good results, both in performers and reproducers have attended the crossing of the same lines of blood when something intermediate in each case has intervened, but no really incestuous crosses have resulted in the production of great or valuable animals. The blood of Alexander's Abdallah has been thus crossed more perhaps than any other, but in no case did it result in the equal of Thorndale or Almont or Goldsmith Maid.

The practice of close in-breeding that has prevailed among Short-horn breeders will not successfully apply to horses. Our blood horses have too many elements from the same Arab stock, and the tendency is strongly toward their standard.

This is clearly shown in our attempts to cross our Messenger trotting blood on our Diomed and other thoroughbred strains. They lose the trotting gait instead of concentrating and strengthening trotting inclination. Hence, experience shows that we must constantly re-enforce the trotting elements, in-breeding in these families making it necessary. So will close in-breeding in the Messenger family, by reason of the large element of Arab blood in that strain, as we shall see in the course of the chapter devoted to that family.

In the course of Chapter V, attention will be called to the fact that outcrosses have already advanced the success of the Messenger blood, and still further advancement may be within reach, as still further need of outcrossing may be found to exist.

Our practice in regard to in-breeding must be controlled by the peculiarities—the demands, deficiencies and excesses in quality of the stock in which we are dealing. In our American roadster Messenger blood forms so large an element that we must study its composition and traits, and this will reveal to us the fact that they are of a two-fold nature—both contradictory. The one derived from long in-breeding in the blood of the desert, inclining the horse to gallop rather than to trot, and that this is really a more powerful inclination than that which would lead him to trot, and that in-breeding in that blood directly, without the introduction of other elements, has the effect to diminish the trotting impulses. While in-breeding in the same blood after the interposition of other elements which operate to disturb this tendency to go back to the Arab or thoroughbred instinct, tends to strengthen and bring out in new force and vigor the trotting qualities of the Messenger blood. In-breeding in the Hambletonian family has the effect to strengthen the Bellfounder element, which at first was struggling against odds, as will be seen in the chapter on Hambletonian.

If I am asked to indicate the kind of outcrosses for the Hambletonian mares—and by these I mean the daughters or granddaughters—I would say that I should seek such a cross as would tend to counteract the effect of the Messenger blood as displayed in that tendency in the Hambletonians toward the short measure from hip to hock—and at the same time avoid a cross that sets the hock at a point high above

the ground. This would be strengthening the Bellfounder without a resort to the same blood. The Bellfounder cross was the true one in its day in this regard, as Bellfounder had a low hock, and a long measure from hip to hock. My own stallion, Argonaut, not only possesses the physical conformation called for, but he also embraces the blood elements in the proper combination. He is strong in Messenger blood, coming through fresh channels, and well and harmoniously interbred with crosses of Duroc, Pilot, St. Lawrence and Sir Archy—a bold, open and natural trotter, as was Bellfounder, with a powerful muscular organization, great strength of bone, and in substance after the model of Hambletonian himself. I mention him in particular, not for the purpose of calling him into notice, but for the purpose of illustrating exactly and forcibly the qualities to be sought in a proper outcross for the closely bred Messengers of the Hambletonian family. Great in fame as that family have already grown, their renown will yet be advanced by the introduction of such elements as those above indicated, and the future eminence of the American trotter will be a conclusive testimonial to the correctness of these opinions.

#### INFLUENCE OF DEVELOPMENT IN BREEDING STOCK.

This is another branch of the subject on which the writers, and more particularly those who have never owned a breeding animal or had any experience whatever in the breeding of stock, have much to say.

The contributions on this point have mainly been confined to the horse department—as there seems to be a large number capable of writing on that animal, who can say little of any other department of breeding science. But after all that has been said or written on the subject, the horse himself in the various animals that have been bred, and the results of breeding in the breeding establishments of this country, furnish more real instruction than all the amateur writers in the land. The horse as at present bred, as I have shown, is a compound animal, the result of acquired and inherited qualities. It is also clear that the qualities he acquires he also transmits, provided he retains the same, and they thus enter into and become a fixed part of his animal character.

These acquired traits, as they come from the exercise of certain functions, so they depend for their maintenance upon the continuance of such exercise, and they decline in force by disuse and idleness.

Hence, when an animal has acquired, from long and constant use, the nerve impulses and temperament of a roadster, full of intelligent appreciation of the duties and displays of power incident to such employment, it is but reasonable that such qualities would be transmitted to the offspring of such animal, produced when such habits of muscle and nerve were in full force and exercise, and that the force and certainty with which the same would be transmitted would in large part depend on the vital presence and force of such impulses. Experience and observation both combine to teach the truth of these principles. As we shall see further along, the great roadsters, and the great trotters also, have come from parents that had been similarly employed, and had a development that gave them fixed habits of nerve and body—a temperament adapted to and coming from the employment to which they had been devoted.

It is important to note the fact that, while we recognize the blood of Messenger as the great trotting blood of our country, this trotting quality has come to us mainly, if not altogether, from the sons and daughters of Messenger that were either part bred or kept and bred from in localities where the horse was used as a roadster; and that, of his thoroughbred sons and daughters used for racing purposes, for which they were also distinguished, a much smaller percentage of trotting qualities has been disseminated. This will be referred to more fully in another place.

Carrying out the supposed teachings of experience in this same matter, it is also claimed that to produce great trotters with certainty and success, the parents must both be trained and developed in the way that our great trotters are trained, and that as a sequence of this doctrine such animals alone can be relied upon for the highest degree of success as breeding animals. Whether it is true that this high degree of development in sire and dam is beneficial or can be relied on with increased confidence, is a matter of uncertainty, and also one of some difficulty to determine with any degree of satisfaction. Whether the process of training and fitting which we call the grand preparation for the great struggles of the race-course, do tend to give the nervous and physical organism the same degree of fixed character and constitute such traits into the permanent elements of the animal nature and being as the regular and constant use as a roadster and fast trotter in daily road work, we can hardly decide. Theory and practice might not agree—the doctrine started with, may not correspond to the results of experience. There may be many reasons why

a fair test can not be expected. It takes so many years to develop the trotters and bring them to the highest degree of excellence that before they are ready to be transferred from the department of performance to that of reproduction, their age unfits them for the greatest excellence in the latter. Thus far but a small number of great trotters have produced stallions that approach the front rank. Princess enjoyed a short career on the trotting turf after several years use as a roadster, in both of which departments she was distinguished, and then produced the stallion Happy Medium, who undoubtedly displays much of the trotting quality for which she was noted.

Sally Miller, the dam of Long Island Blackhawk, was a trotter and road mare of distinction in her day, her claims to that rank being founded both in her performances at one and two-mile heats, and in her being either a granddaughter or a great-granddaughter of Messenger.

Flora Temple has also left a son that has some claims to trotting excellence, but is yet not known to rank as a distinguished stallion.

Lady Thorn has left a son yet too young to settle the question whether her high degree of perfection as a trotter was in her favor as the dam of a great stallion, and the same observation will apply to the son of Lucy, her distinguished companion and old-time competitor. It is certainly true that the renown of Lady Thorn as a trotter, and her brother Mambrino Patchen as the sire of trotters, in large part originated in the fact that their dam was a highly bred and fully developed road mare, in constant service and of great reputed excellence.

Amazonia, the dam of Abdallah, was the most noted road mare of her day; bred from the most noted road stock, but without any of the so-called development in any way, except hard and constant use on the road, where she had no peer. In her blood constituents and in her acquired and steadily maintained excellence, she was the worthy maternity of the greatest trotting family of our country, but not less distinguished in each of the above respects was the Charles Kent mare, the dam of Hambletonion.

She was deeply in-bred in the best trotting blood—herself a daughter of one of the best natural trotters our country then had, and for many years was as much famed on the road as the distinguished dam of Abdallah. From such parentage it is no strange phenomenon in breeding that there came the founder or progenitor of a trotting race or family the greatest the world has yet seen.

The dam of Alexander's Abdallah, the most successful of the sons

of Hambletonian for his short existence, was a developed road mare, but not entitled to be classed as anything beyond. So was the granddam of Volunteer, the dam of George Wilkes, the dam of Eriesson and granddam of Clark Chief, the dam of Trustee who trotted the twenty-mile race, and the dam and granddam of Knickerbocker.

The dam of Gov. Sprague, in addition to the qualities of a fast road mare fully developed, had the additional element of being a daughter of Hambletonian. The dam of Mambrino Chief by her good qualities as a roadster first proved herself to be worthy to produce so great a stallion, and in later years by the qualities of her descendants also fully established her claim to the double distinction of possessing as good blood as was on the calendar. From her Abdallah would have produced the peer of Hambletonian, and, perhaps, a more generally successful stallion.

The dams of Aberdeen, Cuyler, Middletown, Mambrino Star, Argonaut, and many other distinguished stallions, came from superior road mares—the first on the above list, from a trotter of considerable distinction. It is rare indeed that a truly great road mare of good breeding has failed, when bred to a good sire, to produce something worthy of her own excellence, and still more rare, that a really great stallion can be shown whose dam was an unused and idle mare whose blood qualities had never been called into exercise and proved by actual use and the capacity for hard work. Many mares in the breeding farms of this country have no other claim to superiority than a pedigree showing the blood of distinguished families. That many such fail may be owing to the fact that they never wore a collar or performed a day's work in their lives. It might be that many of these long-pedigree mares would acquire the harmony of nerve organism and blood traits which they seem to lack, if they were put into actual service on the road for a long and uninterrupted period. Nothing else, perhaps, would call out the dormant qualities of nerve and muscle which they carry hidden and unseen.

It seems to be a law of animal existence, not confined to the human race, that without labor there is no great excellence, and that it is the trials and contests of life that call out and develop the capabilities of a race.

## CHAPTER II.

### PHILOSOPHY OF TROTTING.

#### MENTAL IMPULSES — PHYSICAL CONFORMATION — SCOPE AND VALUE OF MEASUREMENT.

AT the threshold of the subject of breeding the trotting horse, we are met with the question, In what does the distinctive trotting quality consist? What is it that gives him type, character and value as a trotter as compared with a horse that goes at any other gait? Is it habit? or instinct? the result of acquired or inherited nerve or mental quality? or is it the necessary and inevitable working of a certain physical conformation that carries with it adaptation? Is it either of these separately, or is it the joint produce and result of all combined? Upon this subject I may say here, that much has been advanced by those who have undertaken to write upon the trotting horse, and many of my recent critics have not confined themselves to giving us their own ideas and opinions, but have manifested some enterprise in attempting to give mine before I had uttered them. I commend to all such a habit that I have found useful—that of treating of only one branch of a subject at a time; for if I fail in that, I should hardly hope to succeed by combining several that were equally difficult. Besides, it is not always safe to guess at one's opinions on one subject from what he utters on an entirely different one.

In general terms I may say, that this trotting quality is partly dependent on both mental or nerve organization, and physical conformation. The same may be said of the element called speed. Unless the horse has form and physical adaptation to the trotting action, and also to speed, he can not trot or go fast. Unless he has a mental or nervous habit inclining him to trot, he will not choose and tenaciously adhere to that gait; and unless he has a quick temperament and a highly-organized nervous composition, he will not go fast at any gait.



All of these qualities are, to some extent, acquirable, and when acquired by growth, education, practice or blood, they are transmissible and inheritable.

It may be proper here to say, in passing, in order that I shall not be held unscientific, that these words "mental" and "nerve system" are often used without intending to be held to the strict and correct truth of science. The organs that compose the brain and embrace the seat of mental and nervous action, may be said to be threefold, viz., the cerebrum, the cerebellum, and the cerebro-spinal mass. All these parts, acted upon by the mind, carry out action by means of two systems of nerves, the automatic or reflex system, and the sensori-motor system. The cerebrum is the seat of thought, and no exercise of the will can be carried on without it. The cerebellum is the seat of combined motion, and is necessary to give unity to the motions of the muscles. The cerebro-spinal mass is the seat or centre of the automatic or reflex system of nerves. Along the spinal cord are ganglia, or centres, from which the nerves proceed. These ganglia are diminutive brains—the same in shape and functions—and are inferior centres referred to the brain.

The active power of the nervous system resides in these ganglia, and not in the fibres of the nerves. The sensori-motor system serves as a medium between the cause (affection of the automatic system) and the effect (motion) which follows.

These statements regarding the seat and organs of mental or nerve action thus concisely before us, we may proceed to the recognized fact, clearly discernible, that this trotting quality in the horse arises first of all from a state of mind,—habit of mind,—temperament,—temper of mind,—inclination or instinct (for such are the various terms that have been used), that induces or leads him to adopt that way of going—be it fast or slow it matters not. And right here I am forced to dispose of the question, Which of these terms, or which phraseology correctly and philosophically expresses the true idea? More has been written and said in reference to the term "instinct," in this connection, than almost any other department of horse literature. It has been brought forward on the one hand with a sort of proprietary assumption that has called forth and challenged the condemnation of those who had not the philosophy to dispute its soundness, or to furnish a term more accurate in its application.

Discarding all previous definitions of the term, I may say that *instinct* is natural mental inclination,—inward impulse,—unconscious,

involuntary or unreasoning prompting to action,—a disposition to any mode of action without any apprehension of the end or object,—a natural and unthinking impulse of an animal to do any act guided solely by inclination, and ungoverned by reason.

What is inclination? It is a leaning of the mind or will,—a pro-pension or propensity,—a disposition more favorable to one thing than another,—disposition of mind.

What is temperament? It is defined to be disposition of mind,—the constitution of the mind, particularly with regard to the passions and affections; as, a calm temper, a hasty, fretful temper,—degree of calmness of mind, or moderation.

It will be seen further along, that this matter of temperament is one deserving of consideration in the mental character of the trotting horse; but it is apparent that it has no proper application to the question under consideration—that of the natural inclination of the animal to the trotting gait.

It is clear, from a careful analysis of the several terms and phrases used, that the terms inclination and instinct more accurately express the real idea embraced than any others. The term “trotting instinct” has been generally accepted; and, but for the proprietary assumption that has been so loudly sounded in regard to it, would have become universally satisfactory as both convenient and philosophical.

This mental trait that we call trotting instinct, is an unseen quality, not discernible by any of our senses, and it can not be located except in the light of science. Like all other mental states or conditions, it is only discoverable in its outward manifestations—in its leading, inducing or inclining the animal to adopt and adhere to the trotting action or gait, in preference to any other. This is the scope and province of trotting instinct; and the correctness of the principle does not, in any respect, refer to the rate of speed which the animal can display at that gait. It simply embraces the inclination—the tenacity or force of that impulse. The other qualifications of the trotter depend upon other traits and qualities.

This much being settled, it will be obvious that this trotting instinct must, like all other mental qualities, have had an origin somewhere. It started before it grew; it was acquired before it was transmitted or inherited. It may be thus clearly stated that this habit or inclination of mind comes, first of all, and in great part, from a required or convenient form of action that suggests the inclination, and induces its gratification and growth, until simple inclination becomes confirmed

habit, both of mind and body; and this habit of mind and body leads to growth of each by exercise; and the growth of habit in mind and body leads also to the growth and further development of the form that is most adapted to the way of going thus chosen and practiced. The above principle should be kept clearly in mind, as we shall have occasion to recur to it frequently, and from it the connection between form and instinct in the trotter becomes apparent. In this manner qualities both of mind and form have originated and been developed. A restless and nervous breed of cattle are difficult to fatten. The best way to fatten such a breed is to confine and quiet them. The best way to quiet them is to make them fat; and as you proceed in breeding, quieting and fattening, from age to age and generation to generation, you reduce the lean native Texan to the gentle and beefy Short-horn—the fattest of all cattle, and the most quiet and docile of all animals. His quiet temper leads him to fatten readily, and his tendency to become gross and beefy increases the serenity of his disposition. Thus it is that two distinct elements reciprocally lead to the growth and development of each other.

The horse, like all other domestic animals, has acquired many instincts and qualities that originated in the wants and conveniences of man, his owner, and whose purposes he has for so many ages most faithfully subserved. The race-horse, the pacer, the trotter and the draft horse have each acquired his distinctive qualities and characters respectively from the local and predominating demands of his master. His mental traits may be thus said to have been borrowed in each case from man. The race-horse originated in the taste or demand of the rider for speed under the saddle; and the pacer, likewise, from the preference of the rider for that as a saddle gait.

The trotting horse originated in a locality where trotting in harness was the favorite way of using the horse. Under our civilization it is and will forever remain the chief and popular method of appropriating the services and companionship of this noble animal by his owner. The intelligence of the latter leads him to select the class and breed of the animal best adapted to his use; and these two elements, adaptation and use, hand in hand, have led us to our present advanced state with the great American trotter. Habits of mind and body have been acquired, and are acquirable by use. It is often said that experience is the best of schools; it undoubtedly is in all that pertains to the mental traits of the horse. Long usage and constant requisition upon the animal for the highest exercise of the qualities of

a road horse, has been the nursery in which was reared the embryo trotter, that now so greatly distinguishes our American turf. And it is instructive and highly useful in this connection to observe the influence of this school of experience on the part of the maternal ancestry of our trotting families. It is often said that we derive our greatest and best qualities from our mothers. It certainly has been the case with the progress and development of our great trotting families.

Amazonia was long and severely disciplined as a road mare. She thus acquired qualities which she imparted to Abdallah that are transmitted with a force not exhibited by any other son of Mambrino. It was the same school in which the dam of Hambletonian developed those qualities which mark so large a branch of our trotting family. The same may be said of the dam of Alexander's Abdallah, and the granddam of Volunteer and Sentinel; the dam of Lady Thorn, of Argonaut, of Daniel Lambert, of Happy Medium, of Aberdeen, of Ericsson, and many others of our noted trotting sires.

It may in this connection be worthy of note, that those mares that have been distinguished as superior road mares rather than as turf celebrities, have generally had the most signal influence on our trotting families as the dams of celebrated stallions.

Mental traits which are of a deep and lasting character are not acquired at once and spontaneously, but are the growth of long and continued usage and discipline. It is thus they become a part of the spirit or mind of the animal. By disuse they are lost or weakened. Hence it results that trotting blood, in remote and diluted channels, may not always prove a guaranty of success in breeding. But when an animal of enduring excellence is found that has a pedigree rich in the blood of our most noted trotting families, and when all the particular members through which it comes have been noted for superiority, such an one carries a guaranty of great reproducing power. *Like* having successively reproduced *like*, may be relied upon to continue in the same channel.

The matter of temperament is nearly akin to that of trotting instinct, but is not identical with it. Many animals have the trotting inclination highly developed and deeply implanted, but are so hot-headed as to make them trot one day and be utterly intractable on another. Longfellow was a horse of a remarkably cool temperament, but he possessed no trotting instinct beyond that of any other race-horse. I once owned a mare by imp. Mango, winner of the Doncaster

St. Leger, that was pronounced singly the fastest three-year-old ever trained by a veteran turfman; but in a race she was so excitable and hot-headed as to be utterly worthless. High temper is a fault very difficult to overcome, and at all times a serious obstacle to success in a trotter.

This trait expressed by the term temperament is one that has very intimate relations to the quality of speed, but in such connection it must be taken as expressive of nerve force, or the capacity for a high state of nervous vigor and action. A horse or a mare may possess a slow and dull temperament—may be incapable of a display of great or intense nervous vigor—he may be excitable and restive, and yet lacking in the extreme in nerve power. On the other hand, he may, like Gov. Sprague, be calm and placid in disposition, but when roused or called upon be capable of displaying a force and enduring energy that can only come from a nervous system organized for the most powerful and demonstrative tension. In this lies the embodiment of speed. It is for such an organism that we go to the highly-bred horse of any and all breeds. The low or the ill-bred mongrel can not be expected to display any such qualities. There is another quality of mind, that may be classed within the term temperament, that is equally important; it is that of courage, and serene confidence in the presence of danger, or that which to animal minds seems to threaten danger. A seary or foolish horse can never be valuable for trotting purposes, although of the most perfect form, and capable of the highest flights of speed. Such a family trait was found in the descendants of Alexander's Edwin Forrest. They were naturally flighty, and the trait was deeply seated. Lilly Simpson was a fast trotter, but foolish and flighty; and her full brother was the worst I ever knew. The courage and docility of the descendants of Justin Morgan are proverbial, and form a large element in the character of that family, that gave them for so long a time a widespread popularity.

That other mental trait, designated by the term "pluck," which signifies high courage coupled with tenacity of will, and resolute, unflinching determination, is the golden trait that should be found in every great trotter—the quality that always has a link to let out in the extreme and vital emergency of every contest—that goes for the death; and in the very jaws of defeat knows no such thing as despair, but is ready to summon power never before called out, and snatch victory in the very crisis of disaster. Such was the quality that carried Black Maria through her twenty-mile contest, that carried the

heroic Smuggler to the front at Cleveland, in 1876, and that has often saved the day and the victory in the face of almost inevitable defeat. The absence of this quality makes a quitter; and a family noted for such a character may well be called *sawdust*. It clearly asserts its origin in low blood somewhere, but is hard to overcome in breeding.

It should be clearly understood that these several mental traits may exist separately or together, in various degrees, and are not altogether dependent on, or wholly independent of each other. Trotting instinct or inclination may be a deep-seated and powerful impulse, but reside in an animal of no will or nerve force, or one wholly destitute of pluck or courage. The gait may be perfection in its natural impulses, but there may be no speed. Or the whole may exist in such degree as to form an animal of the highest and most enduring excellence.

It is further to be observed, that this matter of trotting instinct is a trait that in many cases has been only recently acquired, and has not been inherited from remote generations, and deepened and intensified with each successive age. In such case, it is often that when crossed upon thoroughbreds the first crosses show a powerful impress in favor of the trotting impulses; but in subsequent crosses of the same families, and those having the same quantum of trotting blood, the trait or impulse seems to grow feeble, and inclined to disappear altogether. This is worthy of remembrance, as there are several illustrations found in crossing the Messenger trotting strains upon the blood of Diomed and Sir Archy where the early crosses resulted in a distinguished trotter, but the same trotter was as marked a failure in reproducing the excellence for which he was distinguished. The Star-Hambletonians laid claim to all the glories of their family, until it was found that out of about thirty stallions, not over three had produced a 2:30 trotter to this date. Woodford Mambrino and Brignoli were two of the most noted performers of the sons of Mambrino Chief, but that they have been successful as trotting sires will scarcely be claimed by any.

I may be met here with the inquiry as to when the trotting instinct in the Messenger and Bellfounder families originated. It would perhaps be difficult to answer this question; but it is certain they had it, and in the latter horse it was well and powerfully developed.

Recurring to the physiological statements before laid down, it is apparent that much of that which affects the gait, or way of going of the horse, is seated in the cerebellum, and operates through the cerebro-spinal mass. The cerebrum is the seat of the will, of courage

and of resolution, and of that intellectual quality which we designate sense; and from all this it is apparent that in the horse all these organs of the brain find a large development. They are largest, of course, in man, and some of them are totally wanting in the invertebrate animals; but in the scale of brain and nerve force, it will be found that in the animal creation the horse holds a rank close to his master.

#### PHYSICAL CONFORMATION.

In the separate consideration of the individual stallions and families which form the chief subject of these chapters, it will be seen that a large space is given to physical conformation. When we consider the trotting horse in the aggregate, it may be that the mental or nervous traits and habits or instincts deserve as much attention as any other part of the subject; but in view of the highly advanced state of our trotting horses, and the advancement that has been made in fixing his habits and mental characteristics, it will be found that at present there is greater demand for study and judicious selections in regard to form and physical defects and excellences, than with regard to the unseen and hidden traits of the mind. We have gone so long on the false maxim that trotting goes in all forms, that we have learned to disregard that which at this day has more influence on the excellence of our American trotters as a class, than their mental constitution.

The fastest trotting stallion of America has become a great trotter through the superiority of his natural and acquired mental traits and intense nerve force, in face of the most positive disadvantage resulting from a form that has at all times presented obstacles that could only be overcome or obviated by great skill in the education or training, and the highest degree of acquired dexterity on the part of the horse.

The American Star and Duroc-Messenger families have attained to a great degree of excellence in all that pertains to high trotting quality and a nerve force and organism of unsurpassed tension and power, coupled with physical infirmities and blood traits of the most pernicious and damaging character, all coming from a single race-horse that was himself the embodiment of the highest nerve organism, and the most deep-seated physical taints and imperfections. We have overlooked the importance of the maxim *sana mens in sano corpore*, and have eagerly sought for an engine that could show tremendously intense steam power, without any regard to the strength

or proper adaptation of the several parts of the machinery that is to be propelled by it.

Allow me then, in the further progress of these chapters, to assume that our American trotter has already attained a high degree of excellence in natural and acquired mental traits and nerve capabilities, except in so far as, in the individuals selected, the contrary shall appear; and to give a large share of my attention to those matters of physical conformation and proper adaptation of one part to another that go hand in hand, and are of equal importance in the make-up of the great and valuable trotting stallions; keeping in mind that while trotters do go, and can, by great skill, be taught to go, in many diverse forms, there is, nevertheless, a form more perfectly than many others adapted to the gait and constitution of the trotter, and without which the highest degree of excellence can not be attained.

It is also worthy of remembrance, that as mental or nervous traits are the result in great measure of education—training and practice—so defects can, in large part, be ameliorated, and, in many cases, entirely cured, by like processes; but physical defects, either in conformation or in blood infirmities, can only be overcome by the most judicious selections and crosses, and, in many cases, after long-continued and protracted efforts in breeding. These efforts are attended with so many incidents of uncertainty and discouragement, that the importance of avoiding defects apparent in form can not be over-estimated.

It is, of course, absurd to suppose that we can determine the quality and capabilities of a trotter by the tape-line; but it is not always out of the question to determine his lack of capacity.

Conformation and the proper proportion show whether he is, in this respect, well or ill adapted to the highest excellence. If he lacks form, or any of the great essentials, he may be a fast horse, and yet not a great nor successful trotter. Form of the most perfect proportion will not guarantee speed; but if he lack form, he will be lacking so much of that perfect excellence which is the standard sought after by every intelligent breeder.

The rate of speed made by a horse on a particular occasion enters the public journals, and gives him a record—be it official or unofficial—and this is often all that is known of him, and all that can, under our system, be known of him; while his way of going, and those traits which are so requisite to a great horse or a family of enduring excellence, are never known to the public. In this way we are



taught to disregard every condition except that of speed ; and the results of the error are apparent in all the breeding plans of the continent.

We have fallen largely into the habit of looking more to the reputation of a trotting stallion or family for speed than to their way of going. And having seen fast horses of every conceivable variety in shape and conformation made, for a time, steady trotters, by the use of all sorts of weights, boots, pads, and other appliances, we have overlooked the importance of so breeding our trotters that Nature shall supply them with a conformation that obviates all resorts to such foreign appliances; and have also forgotten, or disregarded, the fact, that a gait and poise of body naturally pure and perfect, go so far toward securing a perfect trotter as to relieve our art from the necessity of making up for the lack of form, and enabling it, as has been well expressed, to work for a surplus, rather than to cover a deficiency.

The first point to which I shall call attention, in the matter of physical organism, is the necessity for an ample and facile breathing apparatus. Many otherwise valuable horses have the jaws so close together, and a neck so thick that the windpipe and its appurtenant apparatus are so far crowded and hampered as to render it difficult or impossible for the animal to secure the full and easy supplies of oxygen rendered necessary by the violent exertion of which he is otherwise capable. Nerve force can only be kept up by a ready supply of oxygenated blood. This can only be secured by lungs and air-passages in the most perfect health and of the most ample capacity. In some animals the defect lies in a deficiency of healthy lung power, and in others, of the most perfect health and stamina, the neck is so thick, and the throat so restrained by the mass of muscular surroundings, that a free and easy passage of air for the increased demands of the circulatory system is rendered impossible. In this respect, the Pilot and other native Canadian families are often very deficient, while the Abdallah and the descendants of Messenger generally, and others nearly connected with the high-bred horse, excel. Superiority of these organs usually accompanies high breeding.

Obviously, the relative proportions of the limbs of the trotter must rank high in importance as affecting his gait, or way of going, and, consequently, the perfection of his motion, upon which his value as a trotter depends. While motion may be instinctive, and does originate in an impulse of the mind, and while that impulse may operate largely,

or even solely, in determining whether the motion shall be a walk, a trot, a pace or a gallop, the form or manner of executing that impulse must and does largely depend upon the fitness, the adaptation and the perfection of the machinery with which the action is to be accomplished. Moreover, how far the mental impulse that chooses or leads to the particular gait is also influenced by the adaptation and perfection of the machinery, can not altogether be estimated, but must not be overlooked. An animal that is lame in one leg limps; but the limping or shielding the limb from its full task comes from a mental impulse; and the horse that acquires a certain weight of limb and proportion that makes it easier to trot than to go at the same rate of speed in a gallop, will have a mental impulse inclining him to choose the trot, and adhere to this gait so long as he can accomplish a rate of speed satisfactory to his mind more easily than by galloping; and when his trotting action fails to carry him as fast as his impulses require him to go, he will at once gallop. Hence, it is clear that if his limbs are precisely adapted and proportioned in the highest degree to the exact motions of the trotting gait, at a fast rate of speed, he will be induced or led by impulse to choose that way of going, and adhere to it. On the other hand, if it is easier for him to go at a slow rate of speed in that gait, but difficult for him to retain his poise of body and perfect control of limb at high speed, he will seem to take naturally to the trot, but nevertheless will leave it when the speed is forced at a rate too high for his capacity. This accounts for the extraordinary precocity of some families of trotters, and their utter failure after they have come to full age and the demands of high speed.

Sitting in the grand stand at Cleveland, in 1876, I was deeply impressed with the fact that the horses that evenly followed a certain mean proportion or conformation were the ones to rely upon for all the heats of the race; and, following the same horses through the history of several campaigns, I was forced to observe that the same forms accompanied success in the main; while those that varied from that form were less reliable, and less enduring, although now and then showing speed that indicated qualities of the highest order.

Goldsmith Maid, Rarus, Jay Gould, Albemarle, Gen. Grant, Joe Brown, Sam Purdy, Gov. Sprague, Bodine, Huntress, Trio, Enfield, Allie West, will all be recognized as very evenly-gaited horses, while Fullerton, a horse of very great superiority, lifts his front feet a little too high, bringing his knees at about a square angle, and consequently striking the ground too hard. Otherwise he is the perfection of a

trotter; but he is frequently "off," and the slight circumstance above referred to has an important bearing on the question. Smuggler, the king of all stallions in speed and high mental and nerve organism—who went for a distance of 800 feet, at Cleveland, at a rate of speed, perhaps, never equaled by another trotting horse—lifts his knees so high as to cause the forearm to rise to an angle of 45 degrees, and strikes the ground with a force that is simply terrific. He hurled the dust of defeat in the face of all competitors in the beginning of the campaign, but succumbed to more than one before he was through the circuit, while the twenty-year-old Queen went on conquering and to conquer.

But, my reader will inquire, is there such a matter as exact proportion or length of limb that can be determined by measurement—by tape-line—that will apply to all horses, and hold good as a rule or standard. I answer, that there is no such scale or standard. "Then," says my friend, "if there is not, I see no way of deducing therefrom 'a system that will hold good.'" It is perhaps impossible to deduce a system of measurement that shall apply to a piece of physical machinery with unvarying certainty, as we can not understand or measure, or even estimate, all the hidden and unseen agencies and nerve influences that operate on that machinery; but if we can outline the subject, and learn something of the mean excellence, and how to avoid and reject the extremes of disproportion, we shall have advanced much in the true science of producing animal machinery specially adapted to particular ends.

In studying this question of conformation, and reaching comparative results, by exact measurement, a knowledge of the peculiarities of different families is indispensable, and their varying peculiarities must always be kept in mind. We shall also have occasion to observe that certain bloods, marked by a peculiarity of proportion, have a tendency in interbreeding progressively to increase that peculiarity. Instances of this are found in the Messenger, the Diomed and the Duroc blood. It has, from the earliest period of our trotting history, been observed, that the Messenger family lacked in what is commonly called knee-action. On a close study of their front legs, it will be found that the forearm is very long and the cannon-bone very short. This may be said to be an universal trait; and when it has been long or deeply in-bred, the excess tends to make the animal calf-kneed. For a little reflection will enable us to see, that a horse whose knee is relatively very low, will have a tendency to become calf-kneed, or to

spring the knees backward, from strain of action in propelling the body, or in drawing a load; also that the reverse will take place—that is, the horse whose knee is relatively very high, will incline, from use or service, to grow knee-sprung or bow-legged. The calf-kneed or long forearm family will not lift the foot high, or bend the knees much, but will reach the feet far out; while those with the high knees and short forearm will lift the knees high, bend them much, but not reach over much ground. They will also strike the ground with great violence.

At Mr. Bonner's place, he had three sisters of Dexter, respectively two, three and four years old. The one that was three years old—I think it is—differs from the other two in this respect, her cannon-bone being from one-fourth to one-half inch shorter, and her forearm a like proportion longer, than the others. On inspecting her in the presence of Mr. Bonner, I expressed the opinion that she ought to reach out well, when the man in charge promptly said she was the “best reacher” on the place.

My own mare, Abby Bacchante, affords the best illustration I know of. Her forearm is twenty-two inches in length, and her cannon-bone only eleven inches—one of the shortest of cannons and the longest forearm, except one, I have found. She trots with a leg almost straight, but far-reaching, having much of the pointing or digging motion so often seen in the Volunteers and Almonts. Her legs are as good as could be asked in other respects, but her dam is noted as a calf-kneed mare. Abby is a grey. Her sire was Lakeland Abdallah, a bay. Her dam was a grey, by Mambrino Chief, a bay. Her second dam was Grey Bacchante by Downing's Bay Messenger, a bay; and her third dam was by a bay horse. Now whence comes this inveterate grey? Her fourth dam was by Grey Messenger. I give his pedigree as it appeared and was recorded in Kentucky, including the full pedigree of Abby Bacchante:

Abby Bacchante, grey mare, foaled 1870, by Lakeland Abdallah (he by Hambletonian, his dam by Abdallah); first dam Bacchante Mambrino, by Mambrino Chief; second dam Grey Bacchante, by Downing's Bay Messenger; third dam by Whip Comet, a thoroughbred; fourth dam by Grey Messenger. Grey Messenger was by Dove; first dam by Sir Solomon; second dam by Sanspareil; third dam by imported Messenger. Dove was by All Fours, *alias* Saratoga, and he by imported Messenger; first dam by imported Expedition; second dam by imported Messenger. Grey Messenger was bred in New Jer-

sey, and was sixteen and a quarter hands high; taken to Kentucky in 1834.

It is not difficult to see where she got her staunch grey color; and to my mind, the peculiarity in the conformation and action of her front legs had an origin as easily explained. It was often observed of Lady Thorn, that she did not bend her knees much in trotting; and the point has been made that in her later years, after a long career on the turf, she appeared to bend them more readily than at first—that this proves that this matter lies in the *knaek*, and not in conformation. The difficulty lay in conformation; but the *knaek*, or skill that caused or accompanied the improvement, came from training and practice; and when out of training and practice, the obstacle of ill adaptation returned. The horse with heavy forequarter and shoulder, the readily recognized natural pacer—the Blue Bulls and the Cadmus family—may, by art and appliances of proper weights, be taught to trot, with, however, a strong tendency to break into the gallop, and, when once broken up, hard to catch at the trot. This capacity, however, they can attain in spite of their adverse conformation; and when in high condition of skill and training, their lack of form yields to their reconstructed impulse; but when out of training, the educated impulse yields to the physical obstacle of mal-conformation. It is easy to see how a horse that lacks knee-action can, by practice and the application of weights, increase it; but it is not so easy to see how excessive pounding of the ground, in the opposite form, can be cured.

Smuggler lifts his knees too high because his forearm is too short, and his front cannon-bone too long. The same objection, in less degree, may be found to the front legs of Fullerton, and generally to those which have come by descent from the race-horse Henry and the Morse horse, except as modified by crosses wherein the defect was in part corrected. For trotting purposes there may be too little bending of the knees, but there is more frequently too much.

The sire of the Morse horse was knee-sprung; and an inspection of his descendants shows, that a cannon about 12 inches, and a forearm about 20 inches, in length, are their relative proportions generally. Smuggler is also 12 and 20. The only son of Hambletonian I ever found that bent his knees and lifted them excessively high, was August Belmont, lately owned by Messrs. McFerran, in Kentucky. He was a large horse, very powerfully organized, and displayed an immense propelling power behind; but he lifted his knees so high, and trotted with such high-stepping and short-reaching action, that his

owners had dropped him from consideration as a sire of trotters, and rested on him as the producer of stately, high-stepping carriage horses. His measure was 12 and 20—the only son of Hambletonian that displayed such a conformation, so far as I have seen. This is a very wide difference; and a close study of different animals reveals the fact, that a very slight variation in the relative length of these parts materially affects the gait.

Volunteer has a measurement of the front leg of  $11\frac{1}{4}$  and 21; while most of his family run 11 and 21. My own mare, Orange Queen, is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  and 21—precisely the same as the dam of Volunteer—and in the chapter on Volunteer it will be found that this peculiarity of the family is traceable to his dam.

Almount is 11 and 21; and the common objection urged against his get is, that they lack in knee-action; while Thorndale, with his  $11\frac{1}{2}$  and  $20\frac{1}{2}$ , has far-reaching, yet rounding, action of his front legs, lifting his knees and slightly bending them—about as pleasing in that respect as the most fastidious eye could demand.

Administrator measures  $11\frac{3}{4}$  and 21; and, to my eye, his front-leg action is very superior indeed.

Geo. Wilkes, a smaller horse, has  $10\frac{1}{2}$  and 20, and no lack of knee-action. My own stallion, Argonaut, with a measure of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  and 21, displays a far-reaching action, with slight curving of the foreleg—a rounding motion that is admired and approved by all who witness it.

Gov. Sprague and Florida have each a measure of 11 and 21, and a front action not quite so rounding, but very satisfactory and vigorous. These facts show, that in matters of precise measurement the exact rule can not be absolutely followed, however valuable may be its teaching in the aggregate or in the measure of approximate truth. In many of the Pilots I have observed the conformation that gave too much knee-action; while in those descended from St. Lawrence, measuring about  $11\frac{1}{4}$  and 21, I have found, with unvarying uniformity, a far-reaching, gently-curving, but never hard-pounding action of the front feet, that can hardly be surpassed—an admirable medium between the two extremes of too much and too little.

The American Star cross is not uniform in this regard, but divides toward one side or the other. The first American Star was by Duroc, son of Diomed, and the second, or Seely's American Star, was from a mare by Henry, and his dam was by Diomed. Henry and the Diomedes had a short forearm and a long cannon, as shown by all the distinct lines coming from them. And the American Star family take either strong-

ly after the Henry blood, as in the case of Conkling's Star, and some others, or are controlled by the strong Messenger blood of the grandam of Henry, and the probable dam of the first American Star. In this case, the Star cross displays a straight or unbending front leg; in each case, however, showing the all-prevailing tendencies of the respective blood traits. Of these two, it is also noticeable that the greatest trotters have come from the line that showed the straight leg and the Messenger bearing; as for example, Dexter, Jay Gould, Huntress, and Trio.

I have observed, also, in the descendants of Henry and Diomed, a marked difference in the front leg proportion from those of Sir Archy generally, notwithstanding Henry was a son of Sir Archy; and the two lines of Diomed and Archy, if originally separate and distinct, are generally so closely crossed as to render it difficult to reach results with satisfactory certainty. This fact, to my mind, has presented a strong reason in support of the early and often-asserted claim that Sir Archy was by imp. Gabriel, and not by Diomed, as generally supposed. It is known as a matter of traditional history, that Castianira, the dam of Archy, received both Gabriel and Diomed the same season; and Archy and Gabriel were both brown in color, and Diomed a chestnut; yet in all the produce of Sir Charles, Bertrand, Virginian, Sumter, Kosciusko, Pacific, Timoleon, John Richards, Betsy Richards, Stockholder, Sir William, and other sons and daughters of Sir Archy, the bays and browns were in a large majority, while the descendants of Diomed were chestnuts by an equal majority. Besides this, the peculiar blood defects and infirmities that marked the descendants of Diomed, were, in large part, unknown among the family of Sir Archy—all of which, to my mind, present strong evidences that the credit of founding the best family of thoroughbreds that this country has produced, was taken from Gabriel and given to Diomed, because he was a winner of the Derby—a fact, however, which failed to give him popularity among the English breeders, whose keen eyes saw too much of his blood infirmities.

The measurement and conformation of the hind legs is of equal or greater importance in determining how far the matter of instinct or impulse is affected, and consequently the gait controlled, by the physical conformation. And it must be so of necessity, as the frame-work is the machinery that executes the behests of the will, and that will is moved by impulse in one of these particular ways, controlled largely by the fitness or unfitness, the adaptation or lack of it, in the several parts of the machinery for either form of motion to be chosen.

Generally, we may state the proposition, that the horse with low hocks is a trotter from impulse, and that one with elevated hocks is a galloper, also from impulse. The horse whose hock is far from his hip and whirlbone, the pivots on which he rotates—the fulcrum on which his muscles rest, like levers, to lift his body—gallops with great effort. If his hock was as low as his ankle, he could not gallop at all; but with a hock half-way between ankle and hip, he makes two levers, instead of one so long, and by the double action of each combined, he lifts his body and casts it forward. In case of the short cannon, and the proportionally increased length above the hock, he finds himself impelled by instinct, resulting from that form of leverage, to choose the trot rather than the gallop, and to hold it to the utmost speed it will afford him. Moreover, when the length from hip to hock is increased, not only is it easier to trot than gallop, but his length of stride (of hind leg) is also increased; he covers ground, not only with ease, but with rapidity, for each stroke is a long one. This position of the hock, high or low, however, affects two members, or points—the line from hip to hock, and the length of thigh—or line from point of stifle to the point of hock. Moreover, either one of these lines may be long, and the other short, in the same animal, or both may be long or short. And there are certain peculiarities of certain families that follow in breeding with great certainty. Thus, the Messenger horse had a thigh, and a length from hip to hock, that was exceedingly uniform in its ratio—being a thigh of about 23 inches, and a measure of 39 inches from hip to hock, in a horse 15 hands 2 inches, or 15 hands 3 inches; but when the Duroc cross came in, the thigh, in most cases, was lengthened out to 24 and  $24\frac{1}{2}$ , without any increase in the other lever; as in the Almonds, Thorndales, Swigerts, Blackwoods, and the Star Hambletonians; but when the cross of the Clay and Bellfounder horse—known as Sayer's Harry Clay—came in, the length of thigh was slightly increased, while the other line was extended to 40 and even 42 inches, with wonderful uniformity.

Imported Bellfounder, who possessed probably the most perfect trotting action of any horse ever on this continent, was a horse with a low hock—long from hip to hock—and tolerably long thigh; probably as 40 for the first line, and 24 for the latter. This conclusion is reached only by a study of his descendants.

Hambletonian, an in-bred Messenger, with one-quarter of his composition that of Bellfounder, was 24 and 41; but the majority—I may say the generality—of his sons and daughters run back to or near 23



and 39; showing that the force of the Bellfounder blood was not so tenacious—at least in that combination—as to contend successfully with the concentrated currents of the more potent blood of Messenger. The Patchens and other branches of the Clay family have so much of the Messenger in their composition, that while they are very heavy and long-appearing in their hindquarters, they really run very near 23—39 to 40, except in the branch descended from Sayer's Harry Clay, whose dam was a daughter of imported Bellfounder. I may say that in this line the real characteristics of Bellfounder are more clearly preserved than in any other family whose blood embraces any part of that coming from the Norfolk trotter.

Two instances have come under my observation where the tendency of the Duroc-Messenger cross to make a long thigh, and no increase from hip to hock, has been overcome by a re-enforcement of the Messenger blood. These were, Allie West,  $39\frac{1}{2}$ — $23\frac{1}{2}$ , whose grandam was by Downing's Bay Messenger, and the produce of Mrs. Caudle—Eriesson, her son, and Clark Chief, her grandson.

The influence of these peculiarities on the gait of the trotter is both obvious and remarkable, the long thigh causing him to trot with his hind feet wide apart—in some cases to an extent that deserves the name of straddling or sprawling. Thus, all the produce of Mambrino Chief—except the Eriessons and Clark Chiefs, and a few other exceptional cases, from causes not clearly ascertainable—the Star Hambletonians, the Blackwoods and Swigerts, the Thorndales and Almonts, except Allie West—all trotted with a wide, open gait; and these are the families whose thigh is 24 to  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, while the Morrills and Knoxes and Patchens, of New England, are as well known to be the close-cutting trotters, occupying the opposite extreme. The explanation is found in the fact that Gen. Knox, a horse  $15\frac{1}{2}$  in height, has a thigh only  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length; Hopeful, 22; Orient, 23; Lucy, 20. Allie West had a thigh only  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and the Eriessons and Clark Chiefs, descendants of Mrs. Caudle, had shorter thighs, and were longer from hip to hock, and trotted with a closer and smoother gait than the other branches of the Almont and Mambrino Chief families, respectively. The effect of the increased length from hip to hock must be apparent. The leg is like a pendulum swinging on the whirlbone, and the longer that line is, in proportion to the thigh, the more closely will the horse pass one hock with another; and instead of spreading wide or sprawling, he will reach far forward and set his hind feet in line under his body, in some cases not passing wide

enough to miss his front feet. Such is the gait of those who have the Harry Clay cross, and such was the gait of Lady Thorn, who possessed a thigh only 23 inches, but a length of hip to hock of 42 inches; and the manner in which she made her long reaches with her hind feet, evenly and smoothly, in direct line under her body, must still be fresh in the memory of many of my readers who saw her during her very distinguished career on the trotting turf.

If I am asked what measure I recognize as the true and precise standard of the highest excellence, I answer, that there is no such standard; but the degree of excellence that will combine the best approximate of adaptation to the trotting gait will be found somewhere between the extremes which I have pointed out.

The Volunteers and Messengers generally are a superior trotting family, occupying the highest rank and most eminent distinction. It may be that a little more knee-action than they usually display is desirable; most of tastes would call for a slight increase, but as long as their far reaching in front does not amount to a dwelling action, there certainly can not be any real objection to their way of going. The opposite extreme is one that I can not in any respect commend, and should always avoid it if possible. The short stroke and hard pounding trotters can not endure.

That the real trotting power is in large degree increased by a proper elongation of the line from the hip to the hock, is apparent from the display of power in some of the great trotters, which excel in that measure. Smuggler is 40 inches in that line; Bodine is 41; Lady Thorn was 42; Prospero is 41½; the stallion Cuyler is 39½, as also Administrator; Volunteer is also 40; Eriesson and Clark Chief, and their descendants, were also long in that respect and the best trotters of their respective families. Any one who has closely observed the immense power as well as the extent of sweep shown by either of these trotters, can not for a moment fail to see the great superiority they possess over those that are short in that line. They reach far out behind and set the foot forward more nearly in line under the body, without lifting the hock high or making great apparent effort.

Those of the other class, even the best of them, while they display great vigor and muscular power, also show that it is accompanied with great effort. It will be found in a study of the trotters of the various families, that those members of each family respectively generally excelled which showed the greatest length in this line. This will be shown more fully hereafter, when I come to particularize and speak of each stallion and

the individual produce of each separately. I may now only in general point to the above mentioned as those who represent or illustrate the rule here referred to. This particular feature seems to be the true trotting leverage, and those families that have long been kept for road or trotting purposes have undoubtedly developed in that direction. They have acquired long and strong thighs, and the hock has been placed nearer to the ground.

Such was the characteristic feature of Bellfounder, and this peculiarity marked the mare Mrs. Caudle, the maternal head of a great and distinctively marked branch of the family of Mambrino Chief. The opposite or short leverage is that which belongs to the galloper, and he carries his muscle of the hindquarters at a greater elevation than the trotter. Use and continuous employment in a particular way develop the organs or limbs called into action by such use, and thus adaptation and capacity increase by the same law of development.

I like a thigh of fair, but not excessive length—23 to 24 inches, but no longer—and if a long one, then I want the hock well let down—a long line from hip to hock, 24 and 40, or even 41—but the long reach in this direction may also amount to a dwelling action. Until it approaches that, I want to see a horse's hock low down and far out behind when extended. I don't like one that lifts his hock and strikes the cross bar of a sulky. Such fellows will display an excess of motion, and trotters that have excessive motion in any respect have a conformation that is unnecessarily exposed to wear and tear. The smooth, easy going fellows, that go much faster than they really appear to go, are the ones for the long race. Such will be found to possess the middle ground of conformation, front and rear, which I have described. But in this connection it is proper to advert to the fact, that of the two classes—those that have long thighs and also those that are low down in the hock, that is, have a long line from hip to hock, such as the Duroc-Messenger and the Bellfounder, and part of the Clay cross, and the other or second class that show less apparent action, and possess a shorter trotting leverage in all respects, which class includes the Abdallahs and such of the Messengers and Clays as are not affected by the Duroc and Bellfounder cross—the former trot easier and show more of a natural and ready adaptation to the trotting gait; but the latter train on the longest and arrive ultimately at the highest and most enduring distinction as great trotters. Such appears to be a clearly established peculiarity. Bellfounder was, I have no

doubt, a natural trotter from colthood. Those showing the Duroc cross, including the Mambrino Chief, and their sub-families of the Almonts, Thorndales, Blackwoods and Swigerts, show the readiest natural adaptation to trot in infancy, and while unbroken. There appears to be something in their conformation, particularly the long thigh, that prompts the trotting impulse; but those of the same families that attain the highest distinction—Lady Thorn and Allie West—have shorter thighs than the family average, and none of those showing the long members have yet reached the rank attained by Goldsmith Maid, Rarus, Lucy, Lady Maud, Lucille Golddust, Lulu, Jay Gould, Gov. Sprague, Huntress or Bodine—the four latter being remote kindred to the Duroc blood, but not showing the long leverage which ordinarily distinguishes that family; the strong Duroc characteristic having been overcome by the overpowering reinforcement of the Messenger strains. It is also worthy of note that the union of these two classes has shown the best results when the sire was of the Messenger class, or short leverage, and the dam of the Duroc or Bell-founder class, and that the reverse order of breeding has not been distinguished for success. And right here I have an instance that supplies an illustration on two points that I have advanced. Jay Gould is one of three Star Hambletonians that have produced 2:30 trotters. Jay Gould is unlike the other Star Hambletonians in regard to this matter of length of thigh. He has a thigh only 22 inches in length—precisely the same as Edward Everett and Happy Medium, both successful stallions. He has not the peculiar swinging motion of the hind leg that marks the Star gait. If we could know the full pedigree of his grandam, we should probably discover a concentration of blood that controlled both the Duroc and Henry elements in his composition. But another point, also illustrated in his case, is, that the mare from which he produced his 2:21 trotter, King Philip, who already rivals the fame and promise of his sire, was a mare by Hambletonian, and her dam was strong in the Bellfounder blood, such a mare as the Kent mare that gave us Hambletonian and such as the dam of Sayer's Harry Clay. The illustration may not be without its value.

#### THE SCOPE AND VALUE OF MEASUREMENT.

In measuring the length of the forearm, I extend the line from the top of the elbow, or joint at the rear of the leg, and alongside the body to the centre of the notch in the joint of the knee, and from

thence to the centre of the ankle joint, by the eye, for the front cannon-bone ; for the rear leverage, I measure from the centre of the hip joint to the outer edge of the hock, and from the point or knuckle of the stifle joint to the same place.

The study of conformation, in its bearing on the question of adaptation for the trotting gait, is nothing more than comparative anatomy. To afford satisfactory or valuable conclusions, it must be based on accurate estimates of form. The measure affords the only basis of accuracy. The eye, in those best acquainted with horses, is often deceptive as to the comparative relations of one part with another. It is exceedingly common to find a practical horseman pronounce a horse long and far-reaching in a certain leverage, when the measure reveals the fact that he is not of unusual or even medium length in that respect. By actual measurement we are enabled to study the trotting horse in two aspects, and reach conclusions that approximate toward definite results: first, in how far, and in what manner gait is affected by form; and, secondly, the peculiarities of conformation that attend particular lines of breeding.

The practical and appreciative application of the measure in studying the trotting horse involves a knowledge of the anatomical peculiarities of different animals and families. Without this knowledge, no light is shed on the subject by ascertaining the proportions or conformation in any case. Hence it is that many regard as illusive all suggestions respecting the length or shortness of this or that member. As they are wholly ignorant on every branch of the subject, they gather no light from its most important factors.

There is a class of those who assume to write on horses who sneer at the idea of ascertaining proportionate conformation by exact measurement. It is probably a matter that is beyond the comprehension of their intellects or outside of the range of their attainments. All horsemen measure the horse in all his points, in one way or another. It is generally done by the eye, and they at once pronounce him long or short, strong or weak in this or that particular. Such is the way they generally outline a horse, but often with great relative error, and always in a manner that is exceedingly indefinite. The exact measure, in order to be of value, may involve a knowledge of the relative proportions of different families, and brains enough to make the proper deductions therefrom, but surely no one possessing each of these conditions will regard the study of horses in the light of comparative anatomy as of no value. The tape-line is no direct

measure of speed, but it is an indicator of the adaptation of part to part, and this adaptation not only affects the question of the ease and readiness with which a given gait is chosen, but also the speed and capacity for endurance at that way of going.

As I said above, all horsemen measure a horse as soon as they see him, in some way or other. We inquire his height—his weight very often. I don't stop here when I desire to reach clear ideas of the stature and composition of a horse; I inquire as to his breeding. If this is shown satisfactorily, I then want to know how each blood force has operated in his make-up, and what are his *methods* and *capacities*.

I want to know his front-leg action, and for this I inspect or measure his forearm and front cannon; I then want to know his action of the rear extremities, and when I know his exact length from hip to hock and his length of thigh, my eye and my knowledge of his elements as disclosed in his breeding and apparent conformation give me the rest. I understand him as a trotter as to all that pertains to his way of going, and if I am mistaken as to his real merits it is not because I don't understand his anatomy.

It was at one time asserted that Dexter was son of Sayer's Harry Clay, and many tongues and several pens engaged in the controversy, which the tape-line could have determined with absolute precision; for no son of Harry Clay, of Dexter's size, ever had a length from hip to hock of less than 40 to 42 inches, while Dexter's 39 inches is the exact length of nearly every son or daughter of Hambletonian from a Star mare. This same test, and the uniformity with which it is found in the descendants of Abdallah, point with decisive authority to the blood of both the sire and dam of that distinguished progenitor, and with equal weight corroborate the evidences collaterally supplied as to the dam of Mambrino Chief. In all this field its aids are both valuable and interesting; but as throwing light on the question of whether a horse is or is not a trotter, its importance must not be exaggerated. The fact of his blood and trotting character being established, it affords much light on the way in which he will trot, and to this extent, of his capacity and quality. In addition to all that can be learned from this source in regard to the conformation and physical qualities of the trotting horse, much will remain that can only be comprehended by the practical eye of experience, and which no art or rule or system of anatomy can or will divulge.

The peculiarities of the various blood traits and their increasing

or decreasing tendencies are matters of interest and importance to every one who would understand the science of breeding. So universally do certain anatomical peculiarities follow certain lines of blood, that the presence or absence of the same is often a valuable index in questions of pedigree or family lineage. The law of inheritance, and a knowledge of inheritable traits, often afford more weight of authority than breeders' certificates. I recently found a yearling son of Swigert with a forearm 21 inches long, while the sire is not over  $20\frac{1}{2}$  in the same limb. The explanation of the increase of length in the yearling son is found in the dam being a daughter of Goldsmith's Abdallah, a son of Volunteer, and the second dam being by a son of Hungerford's Blucher. It will be remembered that the long arm of the Volunteers came from Lady Patriot, a mare of Blucher descent. Thus, after two crosses of this blood, the characteristic short forearm of the horse European, sire of the Morse horse, disappears. The illustration is an instructive one.

## CHAPTER III.

### RACING BLOOD IN THE TROTTER.

For the space of about half a century, it may be said, attention has been given to the breeding of the trotting horse in America. There were trotters before that time, and some whose names and performances have come down to us to indicate the lines of blood which, at that early period, gave promise of the future greatness of our national trotting horse. Imported Messenger having died in 1808, left as many as ten sons, at least, from whom came descendants showing a ready adaptation to road service, and some of them a strong and speedy trotting gait.

Bellfounder was imported in 1822, and Abdallah was foaled in 1823, or about that time; and from that period it may be said the attention of breeders, in certain districts where the road horse was becoming popular, was directed to the production and development of horses that would excel in the trotting gait.

Messenger was a thoroughbred or nearly so; and it may be noted that, in all our efforts to improve the quality of horses, recourse in this country is always had to the thoroughbred in the first instance. We are never satisfied to begin with a low animal of any kind, and breed upward by selections from others of the same type. No intelligent and successful breeder of any kind of animals would ever begin in that way. Hence it is that in all parts of the United States where horses have been much used, whether for driving or for saddle purposes, the aim has always been to get back to the thoroughbred as the one sure fountain of good blood from which to found and breed the style of horse suited to the wants of the particular district. This being true, then, that the original excellence of our American horses runs back, in most instances, to some thoroughbred, and it also being true that, in the main, our well-bred and highly-developed trotting families go back to the same original, there is a constant demand on the part of many, and particularly of amateur horsemen, for a recurrence



to the blood of the race-horse, or technical thoroughbred, for something to reinvigorate, as it is styled, our trotters. Many, also, have given years of labor and much money to the effort of making a trotter from a thoroughbred by dint of education and practice.

I will say here that, in my opinion, more is said and written, and less understood—or, more accurately, more is said and written with an imperfect understanding of the subject, on this matter of the resort to the blood of the thoroughbred in the raising of trotting horses—than on any to which my attention is often directed. Many have vague and fanciful theories on the subject, but have not studied it in the light of experience, or the history of the trotting turf. In my scrap-book I find the following, from a clearly expressed article in one of the leading journals of the past year:

While we have extended and magnificent breeding studs scattered over the country, each with a noble representative of some honored family of trotters at its head, we have no thoroughbred trotting horse; but we expect to see, in the immediate future, a *thoroughbred horse a trotter*.

It is to blood that we are indebted for our trotters; to *thoroughbred, royal blood*. Notwithstanding the remarkably high standard to which the trotting horse has been bred, the fact has been fully and frequently demonstrated that the *highest types of the trotting horse* can be *materially improved* by a direct cross to the thoroughbred.

I am tempted to digress here, so far as to controvert the last part of the proposition above advanced, and to observe that this word, *thoroughbred*, has two distinct meanings, as applied to horses. The one in letter and technical theory, that, to make a horse thoroughbred, he must have a certain number of crosses, all coming from the blood of the pure-bred race-horse on both sides. This is the arithmetical, technical thoroughbred, no matter how worthless a weed he may be himself in blood and bone. There is another *thoroughbred horse* in reality, in all that pertains to greatness, in form or temper, blood, brain, or bone—one that, by the flash of his lightning eye, and the grand and sovereign test of performance, can demonstrate that he is truly King—that none but royal blood courses in his veins—Smuggler or Dexter—as magnificent specimens of the animal creation as *Blair Athol himself*.

But to recur to the proposition under consideration, whether the blood of the racer is of any further avail in the progressive development of a breed or type of American trotters in the present advanced state of breeding in this country, and if so, in what way can it be successfully applied?

In reply to this question, as recently propounded, I will say, that there are trotters and trotting sires, the representatives of trotting families now before the public, that have nothing to gain in fame or breeding excellence by a resort to crosses of any family of thoroughbreds in this country, or any other. They are so highly bred already, as to stand the peers of Tenbroek, Fellowcraft and Longfellow in all the high qualities that distinguish the equine race, and have, besides, a fixed character, both of nervous and physical conformation, that would only be disturbed and thrown out of harmony by the introduction of any element so foreign to them as the form, brain and habitual gait of the technical thoroughbred. This class, however, is a limited one. The mass of the trotting horses and families of this country have so much in them that falls below the high standard of perfection indicated above, that the introduction of crosses having a strong infusion of racing blood can not fail to prove beneficial, and tend, as a whole, to elevate the prevalent standard of blood in our trotting horses. Bear in mind, however, that I speak of *crosses* having already an infusion of racing blood, as there is already an abundance of such elements in this country to render it unnecessary to once again recur to a single thoroughbred animal. We have employed thoroughbred stallions in all parts of this country so extensively as to afford us a very numerous and universally disseminated stock of part-bred mares; and, in addition to this, the question of sex very greatly affects the utility of this resort to the thoroughbred in elevating the standard of the trotting horse.

I have carefully read that part of the chapter on breeding the trotting horse, which is embraced in the second volume of the Trotting Register. In his conclusions with regard to the comparative results in breeding the trotting horse on the high-bred mare, and the high-bred horse on the trotting mare, so far as he intends us to understand the thoroughbred mare, I am compelled to differ from the author in the views there expressed. From my own observation and study, I am inclined to say that I should never breed the trotting sire to thoroughbred mares and expect great results; but from dams that are by thoroughbred sires, and even from mares having two or three immediate thoroughbred crosses (but in no case coming on the female side through a thoroughbred mare), I should breed with great confidence.

There is, of course, great difference in the power of different stallions to stamp a correct trotting gait on their produce from thoroughbred mares. Hambletonian and most of his sons I consider totally

unsuited to any thoroughbred mare. This I attribute mainly to the obstinacy of the Bellfounder element, one of the most valuable but peculiar elements ever introduced into our trotting horse. The Mambrino Chiefs, the Pilots, and Strader's C. M. Clay have succeeded with mares so bred better than any other families; and particularly the latter, he having produced one son, American Clay, that is a successful sire of trotters, and could trot at twelve years of age about as fast as at three—which is quite uncommon for sons of a thoroughbred mare of any family. Mambrino Chief and Pilot Jr. were sires of many trotters that came from thoroughbred dams, and trotted very fast for two and three-year-olds, but were lost to sight after that period. On the other hand, the list and number of mares whose sire was a thoroughbred, and whose dams were even by a thoroughbred, that have borne trotters to a trotting sire, capable of trotting to a grand old age, and improving until well up in the teens, is already quite a noticeable one.

Lady Thorn's first dam was by a thoroughbred; her second dam by a son of a thoroughbred. Lula's dam was by imp. Hooton, a thoroughbred, but was not herself a thoroughbred. The dam of May Queen, or Nashville Girl, was by Crockett's Arabian, and goes no further. Middletown produced Music, his best foal by the record, from a mare by Roe's Fiddler, a son of Fiddler, a thoroughbred. The dam of Volunteer was by a horse probably thoroughbred, or very nearly so. The dam of American Girl was by Contract, a thoroughbred. The dam of Lady Stout was by Mark Time, a thoroughbred. The dam of Geo. M. Patchen was by a highly-bred son of a thoroughbred. The dam of Jim Irving was by a horse probably thoroughbred, or very nearly so. The dam of Lucy was by May Day, he by Henry, and his dam by Duroc. The dam of Pilot Jr. was by a thoroughbred, as was also his second dam. The dam of Medoc, or John Morgan, was by a thoroughbred, but was not a thoroughbred—or at least she was one of those alleged thoroughbreds that had no authentic pedigree, and these are usually not thoroughbred. The dam of Rhode Island was by Nigger Baby, a horse that was a short-distance race-horse, and very nearly if not quite a thoroughbred. The dam of the mare Jenny, by Red Eagle, was by Pataskala, thoroughbred son of Boston. The dam of Bell of Patterson was by Liberty, a son of Lance, and a thoroughbred.

The dam of Woodford Mambrino, the fastest son of Mambrino Chief, was by Woodford, a thoroughbred. The dam of Brignoli, one of the fastest of the sons of Mambrino Chief, was by Woodford. Jim

Porter, the fastest son of Downing's Bay Messenger, was from Madam Porter by Roman's Orphan Boy, not a thoroughbred; his 2d dam by Bertrand, and 3d dam by Sir Archy; and the dam of Roman's Orphan Boy was by Bertrand, 2d dam by Sir Archy—in each case from a part-bred mare, and the racing blood coming from the sire's side. Mambrino Pilot was bred in the same way, his 2d dam and his 3d dam being by thoroughbred sires, but going in racing blood no further. The dam of Lucille Golddust was by Bald Hornet, most probably a thoroughbred, but not traced further. The dam of Molsey was by Dallas, 2d dam by Leviathan, 3d dam a saddle mare. The dam of Great Eastern, by Walkill Chief, was by imported Consternation. The dam of Comee, by Daniel Lambert, was by imported Balrownie. The dam of Grafton was by Kavanaugh's Grey Eagle, 2d dam by Mason's Whip, 3d dam by Post Boy. The dam of Little Fred was by Blackbird, a horse very nearly thoroughbred. Sam Purdy, Woodford Chief, Frank Reeves, Calmar, Dan Bryant, and Dick Taylor, all came from mares of racing blood, but which were not thoroughbred.

All of the above will be recognized as trotters of the 2:25 class, or very near that mark, and the dams were as given, but none of them going back to a thoroughbred mare, although some go as far as three direct thoroughbred crosses; the majority, however, not above two.

Besides this very formidable array, do we ever inquire as to the make-up of the so-called Star mares, which have acquired so great fame as the dams of trotters? These mares are all by Seely's American Star, a son of Stockholm's American Star, whose sire was Duroc, the thoroughbred son of Diomed. The dam of Seely's Star was by Henry, the thoroughbred son of Sir Archy, and the 2d dam by imported Messenger. Stockholm's American Star was probably a thoroughbred.

By this it will be seen that Star was either a thoroughbred or very nearly so, and no better in blood than Post Boy, son of Henry, and perhaps many others; but locality, and the employment of so many for the particular purpose, in large part, gave them their great adaptation to the part they filled. Of these mares, more at the proper place. Many other instances of the same character are to be found by examining the Trotting Register, and in nearly every case it will be seen that where the trotting sire has a promiscuous lot of mares, both high and low and thoroughbred, his greatest success has been with the high-bred mares, coming, not through thoroughbred dams, but through thoroughbred sires—the racing blood having been transmitted through

a sire instead of a dam. In addition to this, the list of fast trotters which come through a short pedigree on the dam's side, including some thoroughbred crosses, is a very large one as compared with the list of those that come through a pedigree on the dam's side, ending with a thoroughbred mare. Otherwise expressed, many thoroughbred sires have a place at the further end of a trotter's pedigree, but very rarely can there be found at such a place the name of a thoroughbred mare. The lesson taught by these facts is, that a thoroughbred mare, or a pedigree that runs back to a thoroughbred mare, is not desirable in an establishment devoted to the breeding of trotting stock.

A like rule, deducible from the foregoing facts, would govern me in the selection of a mare with the view of securing strains of racing blood intermingled with trotting crosses. I should seek one in whose composition remote or entirely foreign crosses had been avoided. I want the trotting crosses and the lines of racing blood as equally intermingled as possible. Thus, Pilot Jr., the best son of old Pilot, came from a mare with two direct thoroughbred crosses. He produced the dam of Mambrino Pilot from a mare also having two links of racing ancestry; and Mambrino Pilot, thus bred, was one of the best sons of Mambrino Chief.

Still further: Mambrino Gift, the best son of Mambrino Pilot, was produced from a mare having two trotting crosses, whose second dam was by Oliver, a thoroughbred.

The breeding of my own stallion, Argonaut, affords the best illustration I can present. He is by Woodburn Pilot, a trotter. The dam of Woodburn Pilot was by Mambrino Chief, and his 2d dam was by old Red-buck, the pacer, who is claimed to have paced under 2:20, and was of the Copper-bottom family. Woodburn Pilot was by Pilot Jr., a trotter, the best son of old Pilot, the pacer. His dam was by Havoc—a thoroughbred—and 2d dam by Alfred, also a thoroughbred. The dam of Argonaut was by Toronto, a trotter and pacer, son of St. Lawrence, a trotter, and the dam of Toronto was by Cadmus, the thoroughbred; the 2d dam of Argonaut was by Downing's Bay Messenger, and sister to Jim Porter, the trotter; the 3d dam was Madam Porter, by Roman's Orphan Boy, he by Orphan Boy, son of American Eclipse; the 4th dam was by Bertrand, and the 5th by Sir Archy. Roman's Orphan Boy was the same distance from a thoroughbred—being by such a sire—and 1st dam by Bertrand, and 2d dam by Sir Archy. In each case, coming from mares that were only part-bred, but directly descended from thoroughbred sires. It will be

seen that all the near crosses on the sire's side were from trotting stallions of great and positive excellence, and that in the more distant crosses the sire was a thoroughbred; and that, from first to last, the dams have been either trotters or part-bred, but highly-bred, mares, and in no part of the pedigree is there a thoroughbred mare on the maternal side.

If the blood of the race-horse is to be employed in the development of a trotting family, and particularly of a trotting sire, I would employ it in no other manner than as above illustrated. In this instance it has mingled with the trotting strains in such a manner as to produce an animal, that while completely crossbred is at the same time as homogeneous in his form and make-up as he is marked as a trotter and producer. It is believed that his career as a stallion and trotter will justify the approval here given to his blood composition. He embraces a large variety of trotting and pacing crosses, but they are all of the class that fuse well together, and his thoroughbred crosses are introduced in such a way as that the whole blend in a manner both harmonious and yet retentive of the particular qualities of each of the component parts in high degree.

The philosophy of this kind of breeding must be apparent. The whole process by which we breed from one type to another involves the constant introduction of new elements to engraft upon an original. By avoiding remote and extreme or violent crosses, we approach by a gradual development the result desired. It can successfully be accomplished in no other way. The blood of animals of fixed type and positive characteristics, can be blended in no other manner. While Mambrino Chief and Pilot Jr., from the facility and readiness with which they each crossed on thoroughbred mares, seemed an apparent exception to this principle, a close view of the results of their crosses furnishes adequate proof of the correctness of the rule. Their greatest successes were achieved in each case in the manner above indicated. The reason for this, as well as the evidence of the truth, is also seen in the fact that when the resort is to strictly thoroughbred mares, the success is greatest when those are selected that have descended from the same original families in most part from which originated the trotting sire. Thus the trotting sires of Messenger descent show their affinity for mares by Bertrand, Woodpecker, Grey Eagle, American Eclipse, Post Boy, Medoc, and Lance. This is simply because, from the likeness or similarity of their blood, the gulf to be spanned is not so wide.

If I am asked why, on principle, I select blood that has come through a racing sire rather than a racing dam, I answer: that the blood and mental traits or habits of a mare of a family type that has been bred and used for ten or twenty generations for galloping, and that alone, is of such fixed and obstinate character as to refuse to yield to the impress of a sire lower than herself in quality, or less fixed and positive in his standard of blood. On the other hand, the part-bred or low-bred mare does yield, and the offspring of such mare and the thoroughbred sire affords a more pliant and yielding field on which to engraft trotting tendencies. Reason and philosophy suggest that such should be the rule, and actual results prove that this should be the practice.

In nearly every great trotter in the land, we have lines of blood coming through or from some thoroughbred stallion; while of the horses that can trot in 2:25 or faster, not one runs back on the dam's side to a thoroughbred mare; and, of the number that can trot in 2:30, few, if any, can show such a pedigree perfectly authentic.

It is, however, by many held that certain lines of racing blood possess special adaptation to the evolution or production of trotters, and this claim is not limited to the families that have now and then been distinguished by a trotter of great capabilities, coming outside of the ranks of the well recognized trotting families, as Grafton, Jim Irving, or Jennie. The two families now particularly claimed as having great excellence in this particular, are those of Diomed and Trustee, both imported horses, but very unlike in their blood qualities and character. For a long period writers on this subject have given great celebrity to these two families; both alike distinguished for their own connection with or descent from the greatest turf performers of England. Diomed was the first winner of the Derby, and was imported into this country when twenty-two years old, and his blood enters into the earliest and most brilliant racing annals of this country.

While it is true that he was a very fleet race-horse and his descendants have been greatly distinguished as running horses, it is not true that they possessed one particle of trotting blood or any special fitness for or adaptation to the production of a trotting family.

On the contrary, the tendency of the blood of Diomed is at all times in a direction contrary to trotting excellence, and the trotting quality of any family in-bred in that blood will constantly deteriorate when sires are employed that represent a large quantum of the blood of Diomed.

It will answer the purpose of giving stamina and high quality, when employed on the side of the dam as heretofore indicated, but when employed on the side of the sire the tendency is toward the original, whose habits were those of a galloper and not a trotter. Diomed never produced a trotting sire, and no sire strong in that blood will produce trotters or those capable of transmitting the trotting quality.

The other family claimed to have special excellence in trotting quality, was that of imported Trustee, and his reputation rests, in part, on the fact that he was the sire of Trustee, the horse that was the first to trot twenty miles inside an hour. Whether this fact should be regarded as sufficient to enable the Trustees to rank as a trotting family of thoroughbreds, since the appearance of Jim Irving, Grafton, and Jennie, all faster trotters than Trustee, is somewhat doubtful, and the doubt is greatly increased by the fact that Fanny Pullen, the dam of Trustee, was herself a great trotter and far superior to the dams of either of the above-named trotters.

It is supposed by some, that imported Trustee possessed no more adaptation in blood qualities to the production of trotters than Boston, Red Eye, Melbourne or many other of our stout and lasting race-horses; and that now and then a descendant of Leamington, Bonnie Scotland, Hurrah, Priam, Australian or Longfellow will come out as the trotting wonder of the period, but that will not rank either of them as trotting sires or add to their fame as race-horses. I shall expect good results from the blood of Longfellow, and if there was any use in experimenting, or anything to be gained to the trotting blood of this country by a resort to that of the racer, I should send my Cadmus mare—the feminine counterpart of Smuggler—to Longfellow, and hope for success.

Trustee was a stout and well-bred horse, and while he had no positive adaptation for trotting purposes, having stood in the section of the country where he was crossed on the best road stock of the land, he has left some descendants that reflect honor on his own excellence as a sire, and has helped to lay valuable foundations on which well-bred trotting stallions have built and will continue to build with success. It is a good cross in a trotting pedigree, but the trotting excellence must have some additional support besides the blood of Trustee, before they can be expected to stand as an independent, self-sustaining trotting family.

While it is undoubtedly true that Trustee had not enough of the



blood instincts and impulses of the trotter, unaided by reinforcement from other sources, to overcome the racing or galloping impulses of the thoroughbred or Arab, he has in so many instances appeared in the pedigree of fast trotters, and those which have come from racing or thoroughbred families, as to suggest that he yet retained a strong trace of the blood and trotting instincts of a coach or road horse in the remote past, and as it does appear that he runs to Sampson by one or more lines, this fact may be accounted for, as will be more fully seen in Chapter V, when I came to speak of Sampson.

The history of the trotting turf in this country has furnished an interesting number of what might be termed exceptional trotters, from their having now and then appeared, one at a time, from different families not supposed to possess any special element of trotting blood, and which have hardly been succeeded with sufficient indications to point to their origin as anything more than purely exceptional. However, it will be a matter of some interest, and somewhat suggestive also, to note in how many of these sporadic or exceptional cases the blood of Trustee or his sire Catton appears, and we must not too hastily assert that his blood is not a valuable factor in the pedigree of our trotting families.

While the individual cases of a great trotter, coming from immediate thoroughbred sources, do not carry with them any absolute lesson of great value on the subject of breeding the trotting horse, the history of our turf has furnished some interesting records.

Imported Young Priam, a son of the great Priam, son of Emilius, and out of an English mare by Soothsayer, was the sire of the gelding Silas Rich that attained a record of 2:24 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and fourteen heats in 2:30 or better. The blood of the dam was unknown, and her qualifications for trotting are also unknown.

Strawn's Monarch, a son of imported Monarch, a son of imported Priam, has produced some trotters. I am not advised as to the blood of his dam. He has to his credit Monarch Jr., with a record of 2:25 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and twenty-one heats in 2:30 or better; and Monarch Rule, 2:27, and thirteen heats in 2:30 or better. This, in connection with Silas Rich, the son of Young Priam, will suggest, doubtless, some adaptation in the blood of Priam for the trotting horse.

Young Melbourne, a son of imported Knight of St. George, whose dam was Melrose by Melbourne, was the sire of the bay gelding Jim Irving, one of the fastest trotters that ever yet showed on our trotting turf. He made a record of 2:23, and seven heats in 2:30 or

better, and made the last half-mile of the third heat in one of his races in 1:06. He looks like a thoroughbred, and is the exact image of the mare Alice, by imp. Knight of St. George. He would pass well for her full brother. He was a fast trotter for one season, and unsteady and off afterward. Has been off the turf for several years, but it is said he is now showing a liking for the fast gait again. The dam of Jim Irving was by Leah's Sir William, and he was by Howard's Sir Charles, by Clinton, by Sir Charles, by Sir Archy, from a mare by imported Contract, a son of Catton, the sire of imported Trustee.

In the pedigree of Melbourne we find the blood of Sampson five times on his dam's side alone, and in one of these crosses it is through an own sister to Manbrino. Contract, the son of Catton, the sire of Trustee, is a cross well known and esteemed in England for roadsters and coach horses. The "Druid," one of the best informed authors, says of the Cattons: "Few lines of blood have done more for Yorkshire. Racing, hunting, *coaching*—in fact, nothing came amiss to his stock." In this country we find the blood of Catton in Hooton, from a mare by Catton, and Hooton gave us the dam of Lula by Norman, record of 2:15, and forty-four heats in 2:30.

It has been ascertained that the dam of American Girl—record 2:16½, the fastest of the Bashaw and Clay families—was by imported Contract, son of Catton.

When the blood of Sampson is considered, as fully shown in Chapter V, it will be seen that the trotting qualities of Jim Irving and his sire, Young Melbourne, are fully accounted for, and that it even goes further, and suggests that, after all, the blood of Trustee may have something more than a mere negative adaptation to the purposes of the roadster and trotting horse.

The trotting stallion John Nelson is generally credited to the Trustee family. He is in one place, and generally, said to be by a son of Trustee, but it has recently been stated that he was by Trustee, the imported son of Catton. His dam was the Redmond mare, daughter of Abdallah, which is a sufficient fact to absorb all the credit due to him as a trotting sire. He is one of some note, and has to his credit Aurora, 2:27, and three heats in 2:30 or better; Gov. Stanford, 2:27½, and six heats; Nemo, 2:30; and Nerea, 2:23½, and nine heats in 2:30 or better.

Scotland is a son of imp. Bonnie Scotland, one of the finest thoroughbred horses ever brought to our shores. The dam of this gelding was the famous brood mare, Waterwitch, by Pilot Jr.; second dam by

a son of St. Lawrence. This mare, the dam of Seotland, was also the dam of Mambrino Gift, one of the greatest trotters that has appeared on our turf. Seotland has a record of 2:22½, and sixteen heats in 2:30 or better.

Belmont, a thoroughbred son of American Boy, is credited as being the sire of Venture; his dam is unknown. He has a record of 2:27¾, and four heats in 2:30 or better. His pedigree and origin are not very well authenticated. Moreover, this same American Boy is credited with being the sire of the trotter of early fame, called Awful. He was in his day a trotter of distinction. The sire and dam of American Boy were both by imported Expedition.

The trotting mare Tennessee was by a thoroughbred, Commodore, a son of Boston. Her dam was by Vermont Blackhawk, grandam said to be a mare of double Messenger blood, of great speed and endurance. If such was the character of the dam, the character of the mare Tennessee is easily accounted for. She made a record of 2:27, and three heats in 2:30 or better.

The very excellent trotting mare Jenny is credited to Red Eagle, a son of Grey Eagle, the great competitor of Wagner, and the pride of all Kentucky. Her dam was Topsey Reamy, by Pataskala, a son of Boston. Here was a mare whose sire was very nearly a thoroughbred—a son of a thoroughbred, at any rate—and her dam was by a thoroughbred, yet she was a trotter of great superiority and distinction. She attained a record of 2:22½, and eighteen heats in 2:30 or better. Her sire Red Eagle also produced Daniel the Prophet, with a record of 2:27, and three heats in 2:30 or better.

This Grey Eagle blood was one of great excellence for trotting purposes, which may be due to the fact that Grey Eagle was by Woodpecker, son of Bertrand, and the grandam of Bertrand was by Mambrino, the sire of imported Messenger, of whom a full account will be given in Chapter V. The Grey Eagle cross in the dams of trotters is regarded as one of the best of all thoroughbred crosses.

Chenery's Grey Eagle was a horse about which there exists great doubt and uncertainty; but there can be little or no doubt as to his being a son of Grey Eagle. It has been claimed that his dam was a thoroughbred, by imported Glencoe, grandam by American Eclipse; but the whole matter is involved in uncertainty. Mr. O. B. Gould, of Sciota county, Ohio, a breeder of excellent horses, and a man of well-known character and reputation in all parts of the country, asserts that he bred the horse; that the business was managed by one

McKinney, from whom he obtained the mare, and Mr. Gould gives the above pedigree. The colt seems to have been in Kentucky at one time when very young, and there is great uncertainty about the whole matter. He has generally been regarded as a thoroughbred. He was a good runner and a fast trotter, and could beat his competitors easily, it is said, at both gaits. I find no record made by him better than 2:31, but he trotted a great many heats and races in 2:31 to 2:45. He also trotted two-mile heats in 5:12½. His history is a long one, and full of doubtful places. He was owned by a man whose professional calling did not add to his credibility, and but little reliance can be placed on any fact, except the general ones of his history. He was owned in recent years by Winthrop W. Chenery & Co., of Boston.

Grafton, a chestnut gelding, owned by Robert Bonner, Esq., was by Vanmeter's Waxy, dam by Kavanaugh's Grey Eagle; second dam by Mason's Whip; third dam by Post Boy; fourth dam by Jim Allen, a thoroughbred. This pedigree is made up of thoroughbred crosses, but is in no part near to this trotter strictly thoroughbred. He was a very fast horse, and made a record of 2:22½, and eleven heats in 2:30 or better, after which he passed into the hands of Mr. Bonner, and was retired from the turf.

The young stallion Portion by Planet, son of Revenue, he by imp. Trustee, is a trotting stallion of some prominence, and will most likely prove a good one, both as a trotter and a breeder, as his dam was one of the best and most noted of the daughters of Mambrino Chief, and is also the dam of the stallion Voltaire, one of the greatest stallions now before the country.

The trotting action of Planet is often referred to. He is frequently spoken of much in the same way that Mambrino, the sire of Messenger, is characterized, that in his racing career, in which he was greatly distinguished, he would often start, in a race, on a sweeping trot when approaching the score. This was a trait which marked the produce of Revenue, the sire of Planet. His other son, Exchequer, has been noted for displaying similar traits, and I think we may anticipate now and then to see these traits of the Sampson blood come out very notably in the highly bred, and perhaps thoroughbred descendants of Catton, Hooton, Sarpedon, Bertrand, Grey Eagle, Trustee, Revenue, Planet, Exchequer, and above all, in the daughters of Melbourne.

Exchequer has to his credit, one trotter in the 2:30 list: Lucille, with record of 2:29.

Prince—by Woodpecker, dam by imp. Sarpedon, claimed to be a strictly thoroughbred—has a record of 2:27. He has several lines to Sampson, including two through Mambrino, and the qualities of that blood, as shown in Chapter V, will explain his trotting qualities.

Planet and Melbourne are both dead, but they died very recently, and their sons and daughters will flourish yet for a long time. The trotting element is in this family, but it has so long been buried beneath the force of numberless crosses of pure racing blood, that its force and quality has well nigh disappeared. It is only when the racing instincts have grown dull or dormant by disuse, that the trotting quality comes to the surface. In this, however, I am anticipating that which properly belongs with Chapter V, and I only turn aside here to say, that while the blood of Trustee and Catton have some traces of trotting quality, it is not enough of itself to give the family the character of a trotting family. It must receive reinforcement from use, employment, or some other source.

Fiddler was a strictly thoroughbred horse, by Monmouth Eclipse; his dam was Music, by John Richards, son of Sir Archy. He could both run and trot, and is credited with having trotted under saddle on a highway, twenty miles in one hour, nine minutes, twenty-three seconds. His sire ought to have been a producer of trotters from his blood composition.

Capt. Magowan was by imp. Sovereign, and his dam was by American Eclipse. He trotted twenty miles in fifty-eight minutes, twenty-five seconds.

I know there are those just now who classify all such trotters as the foregoing, descended from the blood of the racer, as having some remote and very mysterious pacing cross, which gives them their trotting quality.

There was a time when every distinguished trotter whose breeding was unknown was classified in the list of undoubted Messengers, and more recently the same school of authority has transferred all such to the credit of the pacing element, of which I shall treat in the next chapter.

In this latter classification there appears one advantage, in the lately discovered fact that the origin of the pacer is a matter of such extreme antiquity that no authority can ever be produced which will in any way refute such classification. It is the safest pedigree that can be given to any great trotter of unknown blood.

In Chapter V it will appear that there are certain lines of racing blood, descended in part from coach or road horse crosses, which, by accident or other means, have been introduced into the progenitors of these families—that all such families have two opposite and contending blood forces in their composition—the one, which is called the racing or galloping inclination and came from the pure blood of the Arab or Barb, from which our blood horse is descended; the other, which is called the trotting inclination or instinct, and which comes from elements that have been enured to service on the road and in harness. It sometimes happens that from use or employment a single member or more of one of these families thus constituted, from use and employment at road gaits, displays an aptness or inclination or adaptation for that way of going, and by training and discipline these qualities and traits are so stimulated and encouraged as to result in a trotter of great superiority and distinction. Such a result will not, however, be likely to come from a family where no such latent and pre-existing road impulses have existed, and such cases when they do occur will not justify the belief that the great trotter or the agreeable and valuable roadster can be manufactured from a thoroughbred by dint of education and discipline. Much effort has been made in that direction, but much loss and failure has been experienced.

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE PACING ELEMENT.

ON this subject much has been written of late years and some have occasionally referred to it as having made important discoveries in regard to its relations to the trotting horse. But with all that has been so wisely surmised or written, not a particle of light has been shed on the topic, and this suggests the conclusion that it is not a matter which is susceptible of any special elucidation, or one that has very important scintillations to diffuse over the matter of breeding roadsters. It has been asserted that the thoroughbred never paces, and that, as a consequence, the discovery has an important bearing on the problem of breeding trotters.

The simple fact is, that the subject is a common-sense matter and shrouded in no such mystery, nor does it carry with it so much importance as has been attributed to it. Without going into the subject at great length, which the space allotted to this topic will not permit, I may here say, that the pacers seem to come in most instances from highly-bred families, and from such parent stock have inherited a nerve and brain organism or temperament that gives them the element of speed at any gait they may adopt. Their speed is an inherited element resting in a nerve organism which commands a physical or muscular conformation adapted to and capable of executing in high degree the impulses of the will that directs it. The same formula of expression will apply to the trotter, and this proves the identity of each in all that relates to physiological or psychological organism.

The pacer, like the trotter, is such in consequence of a nerve or mental organism and physical conformation that adapt him to that particular way of going in each case respectively. Both of these are the result not of accident but of use,—employment and adaptation, having a common origin in the tastes or habits of the employer, that

incline him to select or prefer that way of going. In my boyhood I taught several saddle horses to pace, having lived in a country where the saddle horse was much used and the pacing gait was preferred to other ways of going.

It is apparent that the origin and process of development of the pacing families are identical with or more literally analogous to that of the trotters. Instead of starting with the Morgan, the Messenger and the Bellfounder families—as the trotters have, in large part, in the Northern and Eastern parts of this country, where the custom of the the people was to drive rather than ride on horseback—they seem about in equal proportion to have come from Canadians and from families descended from and by kinship allied to the thoroughbred, a very large proportion indeed running back to imp. Diomed—this latter fact, however, may result from the fact that so large a share of our thoroughbred and saddle stock of the Southern States are descended from or connected with that horse—rather than from any original adaptation in particular for saddle purposes. They seem to have been gradually developed—as in the case of the trotters—by the custom of the country to use the saddle more than the carriage horse, and to resort to the blood of the race-horse for the elevation and improvement of the saddle stock of the country. As successive generations passed away with successive resorts to the blood of the racer, whose blood was best adapted to the easy saddle gait, and at the same time crossing such upon the Canadian stock, and other mares best suited to that way of going, the process of development advanced in a path precisely analogous to that pursued in the other section of the country in the development of the trotter. Thus also kinship in their common ancestry of racing blood renders it in many cases an easy task to convert the pacer into a trotter and even increase his speed; and so far as we have had sufficient experience to engraft a trotting upon an original pacing element, pacing stallions with great uniformity produce trotting offspring.

This pacing gait is obviously more akin to the trotting gait than the gallop, and hence it is not a difficult matter in many cases to convert the pacer into the trotter; and for the like reason the true and natural pacer, with his even and steady gait, one side at a time, makes a more steady and reliable trotter than the single footer or racker. The motion of the trotter is a diagonal one—but two feet move and strike the ground at the same time, but on opposite sides—whereas in the pacer it is a lateral motion, one side at a time, but both feet on that side



move and strike together. Each is alike foreign to the gallop, and each is alike impelled by the same brain or nerve impulses to refrain from the gallop—so they have this one element in common, and it is easier for them to modify their way of going in favor of each other, than it is for them to gallop—hence the affinity of nerve and physical organism that adapts the pacer to the trotting knack, is no great mystery. The pacer long bred in that line, acquires a conformation that is readily recognizable, and in it are seen many of the strong points which adapt him to trotting action of the most vigorous kind. His powerful shoulders and quarters, his strength of back and loin, and the immense and sweeping stride of the hind leg, fit him for great superiority of action. His weight of shoulder and forequarter is often so great as to be against him; but it gives him great power, and if he can only keep on his feet, he goes with a wonderful momentum. The pacer is generally a horse of a powerful frame, and of superior muscular development.

In this connection it may also be observed that the crossing of the well-bred trotting sire on the fast pacing mare, such as I have described, has in so many cases resulted in a fast trotter that it has almost come to be regarded as a real phenomenon in breeding. So many instances of this have occurred as to strongly commend this class of mares as suitable to mate with the best of trotting stallions. The reverse order of breeding, while it has produced some noted performers, is not regarded as sufficiently certain to make pacing stallions popular.

When the pacing habit has been indulged for many generations it becomes so fixed, both in mental or nerve organism and in physical structure, as to render it a matter of difficulty to depart from it. The form of the so-called natural pacer is as striking and obvious to the eye at a glance as that of any other class.

Some of the Canadian pacers, and among these the Pilots in particular, assumed the trotting form and gait with great readiness when crossed with the other families—much more readily in fact than the Copper-bottoms and the Red-bucks—the latter being the most inveterate of all the pacers. Many of our first-class trotting families who run back to this last cross show a decided tendency to the ambling or shuffling gait of the pacer—as for example, the Swigerts.

The earliest of the pacers was Highland Maid, a mare that afterward became a trotter and was the first to trot in 2:27. She was by Saltram, and he was a pacer by Kentucky Whip, dam by Duroc, son of Diomed.

Smuggler, Pocahontas and all the Cadmus family came from Iron's Cadmus, by Cadmus, son of American Eclipse—dam by Florizel, a son of Diomed. This Cadmus family embraces several other sons of Iron's Cadmus, and, in addition, the stallion Toronto, whose dam was a daughter of the first Cadmus. He stood in Ohio for awhile, and was taken thence to Canada, where he died, leaving produce there strongly resembling the stock left in Ohio.

Flora Belle was at first a pacer, and possesses the pacing conformation in marked degree. She was of the Uwharie stock—a family that is in-and-in-bred in the Diomed blood.

The Hiatogas, another Ohio pacing family, came from a Virginia stock, the dam being by Diomed himself. The first Tuckahoe found in the stud-book is by Florizel, son of Diomed, and this suggests the origin of another Ohio family of pacers that all came out in the end trotters, and form so many crosses in pacing and trotting pedigrees. The Blue Bulls came from a blue roan of that name in Southern Ohio, and the Dun pacers of that part of the same State have been so numerous as to suggest that they all had a similar origin. In most cases they are directly traceable to saddle horses of thoroughbred descent that came into that State from Virginia, and leave little doubt of the lines of blood from which they originated.

The Columbus family came from a horse from Canada that bore such a striking resemblance to the Cadmus family, that were it not that he antedated their progenitor it would very forcibly suggest to our minds that they really were one family, but owing to the date of the first Columbus' coming we are left in ignorance of his probable origin. He was a dark chestnut horse, foaled about 1830. He had a white stripe in his face, and left hind foot white nearly to the hock. He was  $15\frac{3}{4}$  hands in height, and closely and powerfully built. He was at first a pacer, but afterward became a trotter and produced trotters. He did not display much of the French-Canadian appearance, but had many of their qualities. There is much to indicate that he came from a cross between that race and a highly-bred or more thoroughbred stock. He came from the vicinity of Montreal—the place whence so many have originated—and a kinship with St. Lawrence may not have been improbable. He was taken to Vermont, and thence to Massachusetts, and afterward to New York. While in Vermont he produced Smith's Columbus, from a mare that was probably from some branch of the Vermont Hambletonian family—and the result shows the benefits to be derived from crossing these best pacers of French-Canadian blood on our best bred

trotting stock. Smith's Columbus is sire of many roadsters and trotters, and has six within the 2:30 list, as follows: Ben Smith, 2:28½; Commodore Vanderbilt, 2:25; Harry Harley, 2:25¾; Myron Perry, 2:24½, a veteran of twenty-four heats; Phil Sheridan, 2:26½; Sea Foam, with twenty-one heats and a record of 2:26. A truly creditable list. He is a bay horse, foaled 1852; his dam was Black Maria, a fast trotting mare, bred in Vermont and by some claimed to be a daughter of Harris' Hambletonian, the next dam being a large grey mare of unknown blood. He is owned by W. W. Smith, of Mechanicsville, Saratoga Co., N. Y.

This is a record that few stallions outside of the most popular families could have attained. He is a trotter himself, but his family having no great antecedent reputation as producers of trotters, he had no such reputation to secure him the best of mares. With him success brought reputation. However, the success of the family does not stop here.

Phil Sheridan, son of the last named Columbus, was foaled in 1862. His dam was a large, strong, black mare called Black Fly, bred in Canada, and by a son of Tippoo, grandam also bred in Canada by a son of Black Jack.

Phil Sheridan was bred and is owned by Robert Dalzell, Waddington, N. Y. He has to his credit the following: Adelaide, 2:21½, with 39 heats in 2:30 or better; Commonwealth, 2:22, and 25 heats; Hiram Woodruff, 2:25, and 9 heats; Tom Malloy, 2:27. To this family, thus starting on the successful highway toward distinction, we may look for an excellent cross for some of our other highly-bred trotting families. Two such stallions from such a quarter are a promise of a successful career to the family.

Occident, a trotter, was a grandson of St. Clair, a brown horse that paced in 2:35, and of his blood nothing is known, but the number and quality of the pacers and trotters descended from him go far to show that he had some quality himself.

The Copper-bottoms were about the earliest of the Kentucky pacers, and probably came from one of that name that was a Canadian; and the Pilots, Tom Crowder, the Red-bucks, Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett, Drennon, Canadian Chief and the other Crocketts, and Corbeaus, were doubtless all of Canadian origin. The readiness with which all of these crossed with the part-bred saddle horses descended from the thoroughbred families, is as noteworthy as the further fact in breeding, which has recently assumed so much importance,

that they all cross with equal facility, and in many cases with very valuable results, with the best bred trotting stallions of the country. The reason for all this is apparent in the fact that, by education and long use, they have become adapted, both in nerve or mental organism and in physical conformation, to a way of going that involves muscular and mechanical action at variance with that of the running or galloping horse.

The high rate of speed displayed by many members of the pacing families, both at the pace and the trot, deserves notice.

It was said that old black Pilot paced a mile in 2:26. Billy Boyce, a son of Corbeau, attained a record of 2:14. Pocahontas made a record of 2:17½, but was known to be able to go much faster. Old Indiana Red-buck was reputed to have paced under 2:20.

In 1875, the record showed twenty-seven pacers with 2:30 and better, and several 2:20 and below.

In 1877, the record showed twenty-eight performers with 2:30 and better, and one 2:16, one 2:18, and another 2:19.

Among the trotters from pacing families, Smuggler has a record of 2:15¼; Red Cloud, by Legal Tender, he a son of Moody's Davy Crockett, 2:18; Mazomanie, 2:20¼; Kansas Chief, 2:21¼; Flora Belle, 2:22¾; in addition to the several members of the Columbus family, as above set forth.

But the most distinguished record has been made by the produce of Wilson's Blue Bull. The record shows: Richard, 2:21½; Elsie Good, 2:23½; and, in addition to the record of the foregoing, Russell is credited with 2:26; Milla C., 2:26½; Bertie, 2:27; Kate Bennett, 2:29¼; Purity, 2:30; Ed Wilder, 2:30; Ella Wilson, 2:30; James L., 2:32; Little Wonder, 2:30—these latter being taken from a statement, in 1876, alleging that the produce of Blue Bull had trotted thirty-seven heats in 2:30 and better, and over one hundred and fifty heats in 2:40 and better. The record now shows sixty-four heats in 2:30 or better. This, it must be conceded, places them in the front rank of trotting families.

The pacer, St. Clair, was a horse classed as a Canadian. He appeared somewhere about Detroit, and was taken to California. He was a horse of very considerable quality, and has shown in his produce that he was endowed with a high degree of speed. He is credited with Lady St. Clair, a pacer with a record of 2:24, and eleven heats in 2:30 or better.

He also was sire of the horse called Doc, that produced the Cali-

fornia trotter Occident, which at one time was a very formidable competitor of Goldsmith Maid. Occident has a record of 2:16 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and twenty-three heats in 2:30 or better.

One of the best trotters now on the turf is the horse Mazomanie, by the Kurtz horse, a son of Paul Jones, a pacer. His record is 2:20 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and thirty-three heats in 2:30 or better, and still in the midst of a career of great promise. The Kurtz horse has also Red Dick, 2:28, and four heats in 2:30 or better. This Paul Jones is the full brother of Smith's Columbus.

The Hiatoga family is one that is entitled to more than a passing notice. They have grown up in Virginia, Kentucky and Central Ohio, and are now attracting much attention as a family that has assumed as near a fixed type as any pacers known to the public, this latter fact resulting from having been long used as pacers and interbred in the same general lines of blood.

The first of these was a Virginia horse taken to Kentucky in 1822. He was foaled in 1815, was a roan horse, and his pedigree is given as by Col. Stephen Crutchfield's Hiatoga, son of Rordell's Hiatoga, that was also taken from Virginia to Kentucky when aged. His dam was Virginia by imported Diomed. He was bred in Caroline county, and stood in Caroline and Albemarle. He went to Kentucky and was kept at or near Lexington. To those who suggest he was a descendant of the little sorrel Narragansett, I will say he was a roan, and sixteen hands one inch high. He was a pacer. At a still later period, the date not given, there was in Virginia another Hiatoga, a pacer, called American Hiatoga. A son of American Hiatoga was taken to Fairfield county, Ohio, by Edward Rice. He was bred in Rockingham county, Virginia. He was a fast pacer and spent the great part of his life in Ohio, dying there; owned by Wm. Munger. He was generally called Rice's Hiatoga.

Old Togue, as he was called, was another Hiatoga, and he was by Rice's Hiatoga. He was foaled in 1843. His dam was by Thunderbolt, grandam by Black Rover. He was owned in Central Ohio, in Perry, Licking and Fairfield counties, and died at Columbus in 1871.

Hanley's Hiatoga was a bay horse, foaled 1849, by Rice's Hiatoga, dam Talmadge's Firetail. He was kept mainly in Harrison and Belmont counties, Ohio, and was both a pacer and trotter. He died in 1858.

Scott's Hiatoga was one of the most noted of the family, as a pacer and sire of both pacers and trotters. He was by Hanley's

Hiatoga, and his dam was by Blind Tuckahoe, the pacer, grandam by Consul. He was also called Tuscarawas Chief. He was bred and owned by Sam'l Scott, of Jefferson county, Ohio, and was foaled 1858. It will be noticed that the pedigree given for Smuggler makes his dam a daughter of Blind Tuckahoe.

This is a family or stock of horses that have been known in Ohio from the earliest period of its history. The horses of that State in the early day were the common stock of the country, brought from all parts, and particularly from Virginia, with the early settlers, and were of the same stock then used in Virginia, mostly such as could be used both as work or team horses, and at the same time accustomed to going under the saddle. Thoroughbred stallions, or highly bred part-bred horses, were in use in Ohio from the earliest days. Starting with such original elements of blood, use and occupation fixed the character of the horses that came afterward.

The descendants of Cadmus, the son of American Eclipse, all show the form of the pacer and his characteristics at this day as clearly as does Smuggler.

Hanley's Hiatoga has given quite a number of performers to the trotting turf, and has to his credit particularly, Grand Duchess, with record of 2:26½, and six heats in 2:30 or better; and Twang, 2:28¼. Grand Duchess is also dam of the famous filly Galatea, which, as a four-year-old, trotted in 2:25½.

Scott's Hiatoga has to his credit Kate Campbell, 2:25½, and seven heats in 2:30; and Lew Scott, with record of 2:23½, and twenty-one heats in 2:30 or better, at the close of 1877, but is now on the turf, and has already added to his record standing. He is a very promising and excellent trotter, and may yet add to the lustre of the family name. Scott's Hiatoga has also produced some very fast pacers that do not trot, which shows that the element of speed exists in the family at either gait. He has Sorrel Billy, 2:20; Maria Scott, 2:24; Flora Hamel, 2:19¾; Kitty Wirt, 2:31; and Cadiz, 2:32½.

#### TYRONE.

Scott's Hiatoga is the sire of the in-bred pacing stallion Tyrone, whose breeding and form calls for a special notice.

His dam was Meg Scott, by Scott's Hiatoga. This is a degree of close in-breeding which I will not indorse, but it is a guaranty that this horse will be of no doubtful type. He was foaled in 1873. He is a natural pacer, as might be expected, and shows very high form

and qualities that give evidence that he will display great positiveness and excellence as a sire. He is a dark chestnut, with a great white face, and three white legs to the knee and hock and one white to the ankle. His mane and tail light in color, but of fair quantity. He was bred by Samuel Scott, of Jefferson county, Ohio, and was sold as a weanling to G. M. Hoover, Bradford, Ohio, and has recently passed into the hands of Dr. H. B. Dale, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. There is probably no such concentration of pacing blood to be found in the entire country.

Since the foregoing and a large of the succeeding pages of this work were in type and plates, I have discovered a lengthy but not very lucid discussion of the subject of the pacers, in a periodical devoted to equine literature, which I deem proper to notice in this chapter. The matter referred to forms a part of a series of chapters, only fragmentary parts of which I have read—a fact which I must confess, although admitting that it is not one which is highly complimentary to the author.

In this dissertation the subject is treated as one newly discovered and the importance of which is only equaled by the light thus for the first time shed upon it. In a disjointed and hasty way I have read some of these pages—they are many—but I failed to see their highly important bearing on the subject of breeding trotters, or the intense light that is thereby supposed to be shed on the problem in hand.

It appears to have been discovered very recently, on the authority of some very ancient writers, that the pacers belong to a very old stock, and one of those writers, in a history written in the Latin language—“*Horse Latin*,” I suppose—gives the information that at the early period in which he wrote, the horses of the locality by him referred to “*do not trot, but amble, and yet neither trotters nor amblers are strongest—as strength is not always incident to that which is gentle or less courageous.*”

From this ancient writer it is shown that the origin of the pacers antedated that period, although the question whether the antediluvian stock which came down the slope of Mt. Ararat was a pacer is not settled by this scrap of “*Horse Latin*.” But in the discussion to which I refer, it must be conceded that the one point, and the only one made clear, is the antiquity of the race.

It is furthermore, after the most exhaustive research, found that the pacers came to this continent in the earliest period of its history. In the same connection, it is shown that a current tradition prevails in

many parts, that the pacers were imported from Andalusia, but this is successfully refuted by the known fact that the Spanish horse was a Barb or Arab, and they never pace. It is however finally established that the Narragansett pacer was the animal originally gifted with the lateral gait, and that if he did not come down the mountain with the early *Navigator*, he at least was the "ambler" to which the writer in the ancient dialect referred, and this is shown further by the writings of sundry eminent clergymen who lived on this continent in the days when people rode in the saddle from Rhode Island to Virginia and the Carolinas to attend to the everyday affairs of life. One of these reverend gentlemen informs us that the products of this colony (Rhode Island) were at that time principally butter and cheese, fat cattle, wool, and fine horses, which were exported to all parts of English America. He then tells us of the fleetness of these little steeds, and says he "*has seen some of them pace a mile in a little more than two minutes and a good deal less than three minutes.*"

I know that it will aptly enough be supposed by some that this gentleman, from his professional habits of life, was not well acquainted with the actual rate of speed at which a pacer traveled, never having held a watch over him on a mile track, and moreover, was in the habit of placing entire and unsuspecting confidence in the statements of owners and drivers, and it may be that in his day these gentlemen belonged to the class of well known and perfectly reliable men, but if we are to be allowed to judge of them by many of their descendants in the direct line, in our day, we are prepared to properly estimate this statement as a little too high for one of the ancient ambler. But as it comes out that the fact of the Narragansett pacer, and his incredible speed, is not nearly so much of a myth or fable to the minds of some learned people as the legend of the Norfolk trotter, and his seventeen and a half miles in an hour, on this high authority we are compelled to accept of the fact as given to us, that there was such a breed as the Narragansetts, and that they were a fast and easy-going saddle family. In the present day I think no one will be found to question the suggestion. Another writer, a Swedish pastor, is quoted, who makes the matter more clear, by the statement that the horses in America are real ponies, *and are seldom found over sixteen hands high*. Nevertheless I can not so readily jump at the conclusion that these Narragansetts are the lineal descendants of the ancient "amblers," described in the *Vulgate* tongue of Polydore Virgil, whom we may reasonably suppose to have been a near relative of



the man of similar name, who wrote the "Bucolics;" and while I do not remember that this well known writer hinted that those little fellows, not over sixteen hands high, would ever amble to our shores, I remember one couplet in his Vulgate Bucolics that ran about thus:

Qui legitis flores et humi nascentia fraga,  
Frigidus, o pueri, fugite huic, latet anguis in herba.

Which, on a close study and explanation, will reveal quite as much light on this question of the antiquity and identity of the pacing family, and its importance to the problem of breeding trotters as the scraps gathered from the "Horse Latin," above referred to.

The learned author above quoted, adverts to the many traditional accounts relating to the origin of these Narragansetts and other pacers, among others, to the highly interesting story of the horse that was seen in mid-ocean swimming—I suppose after the way of the pacer, with a lateral motion, one side at a time—also to the celebrated account given by Rip Van Dam, a writer who flourished at a later period than the Vulgate Bucolic, above referred to, and who wrote of a horse that jumped from a sloop, and swam ashore, from a point far distant from anywhere. He also warily refers to the legend lately given in regard to the origin of old Tippoo, the founder of the Royal Georges, whose real paternity was said to have swam ashore from a shipwrecked vessel, and landed on an inhospitable shore, where he subsisted on nothing but seaweed for a long space of time. The learned author reviews and rejects mainly all of these traditions, and advances the conclusion, in substance, that the ancient amblers seen by the Vulgate Bucolic, were the originals of the Narragansetts, and that in them they have scattered from Rhode Island to Virginia, and thence all over the continent, and that Smuggler and all the great Hiatogas and Blue Bulls of our day, are the representatives of the oldest breed of horses known to our civilization.

In speaking of the disappearance of the pacers in the older States of the East, the learned author says:

They were first secured by the more wealthy at the centres of population and business, and, aside from their use for sporting purposes, they were considered a necessity for comfort and ease in journeys, whether long or short. The condition of roads and streams admitted of no means of travel, except on foot or on horseback. As roads and bridges were constructed, the little pacing horse was not well adapted to pull the family carriage or two men in a buggy, and he was pushed out a little to where he was a necessity. The area of good roads, occupied by wheels, kept ever widening, and kept ever

pushing the pacer before it, till we find him only in a new country, surrounded with the same conditions in which his early history first began to develop on this continent. There he is still found carrying his master over bad roads and bridgeless streams in comfort and safety.

It is not necessary to again call attention to the truths of the laws of heredity in habits of action as well as in other characteristics, as that topic has already been treated exhaustively in preceding chapters.

From the facts given above, we can hardly err in the conclusion that from, say, the middle of the last century till the opening of the Revolution, the dominant pacing blood was the blood of the Narragansett. It then follows that the blood that was pushed back into the woods, and there kept reproducing itself, was Narragansett blood. If this were so in the first fifty miles of improvement, it would be so in five hundred; and if it were so for a single generation, it would be so in all succeeding ones. According to this method of reasoning, therefore—and we can see nothing unfair in it—wherever the pacer is found, the presumption is, he inherits his habits of action from his Narragansett ancestor. As already intimated, this conclusion does not rest upon statistics or records, which are the safest of all data, *but upon reasonable deductions* from a few known facts.

The author further proceeds to argue that the so-called Canadian pacer is a myth, that Pilot and all the known pacers which have assumed a position in the trotting pedigrees came from this same Narragansett stock.

If I am forced to adopt either of these opinions relating to the origin of our great pacers of the present day, I confess I feel like taking my choice, and this will be, that if our pacers did not come from the steed that was seen in mid-ocean, ambling one side at a time, (for admitting that he reached the shore, the prepotency of the race is established) he did originate and still continues to appear on our own soil, as circumstances and surroundings give occasion for adopting his way of going.

The account given for the loss and disappearance of the Narragansetts, is equally mythical—that they were so highly prized in Cuba, Virginia and elsewhere, that the demand exhausted the supply. This does not do full credit to the usual sagacity and foresight of our Yankee forefathers. The learned author, however, does suggest some things, which, to my mind, relieve the subject of much of the apparent mystery in which we would suppose he found it. He says :

We find the pacer has vanished, not only from the little State of Rhode Island, but from all the States on the Atlantic seaboard. Occasionally one comes to light in this region, but the rule is, there are none; and when an exceptional case appears, it can be traced to a border origin. The same effects have been produced in England, and in even a more complete

and unexceptional degree. From the "great company" of pacers that Polydore and Purchas saw there, none are left. The pacing horse is no longer known in England, and it would be hard to convince an English horseman that it was a quality that was inheritable and transmissible.

But the pacing horse is still to be found in many parts of this country, and with New York as the centre, the segment of a circle commencing in Maine, and sweeping through Canada, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee, we will, all along that line, find pacers in greater or less numbers. The same law which banished them from the older portions of the country, with their fine roads, preserved them on the borders, where wheels were not available. The place of the pacer is new, wooded countries. He never flourished on the prairies, and never will; the luxury of wheels is too easily available. Only six or eight years ago half the trotting-men in the East hardly comprehended what a pacing race was, and when they offered purses for pacers in Indiana, they were disposed to be indignant. Thus, from the apex of popularity and fashion, the pacer has disappeared from England altogether, and on this continent he has been banished to the border life, midway between luxury and refinement on the one hand, and the red man and the hunter on the other; and never, till this year of grace, has there been an attempt to do him justice.

While the mystery of their origin is not greatly relieved, that of their disappearance has disappeared with them. When the circumstances and condition of the people of the several countries was so far changed that they had no use for the easy saddle gaits, and when the demand for the horse that could go in light carriages rather than under the saddle arose, then very soon the pacer—Narragansett, or whatever he was—disappeared, and was succeeded by the trotting horse. That is the simple statement that gives the fact and the cause of his disappearance. He disappeared when his owner no longer had any use for him—he became a trotter when the wants of his owner called for one. The wants of the owner shape the character of the horse that he uses; and it is found that he can make a pacer in four generations, and can in a single one unmake him and restore him to the ways of a trotter; and it finally comes to this, that the pacer is the horse of easy saddle gait, always found and abounding in the newly settled countries where bad roads abound, and where it is easier to ride in the saddle than in wheeled vehicles.

The subject, like some others, is one of difficulty to the learned author, and he is entitled to the sympathy of all those who, like myself, have learned of horses from actual use and familiarity with them. He who learns it only from the papers and books, and with the aid of the many thinkers and writers, so often referred to, finds many difficult problems in his way. From my childhood I have been accustomed to

horses, mostly saddle horses; I have lived in new countries, where the Indians were more numerous than the white people. With them and the early settlers, the pacer was the saddle horse *par excellence*. I have taught many of them that gait, ponies as well as horses. I have some now, and it is an easy thing to teach them the pacing gait, and have them go at both gaits. Whoever has lived, as I have, in such localities, knows that a good pacer is valued above all others for saddle purposes, and that a pony or half-bred pony which was a trotter can be readily taught the other gait, and that once they have acquired it they grow into that form and reproduce it in their own offspring, and further, that as carriages come into use, all such horses when used in harness adopt the trotting gait and yet adhere to the pace when under the saddle, until long use at either has confirmed the one and lost the other.

In East Tennessee and Virginia the people all ride in the saddle, male and female; their horses usually show both gaits, and I have found in East Tennessee the most of the stock are called Sir Charles, and are from stallions that trace back to Sir Charles, son of Sir Archy. Such is the origin of many of the highly bred pacers, some are of Canadian blood beyond doubt, but the origin of the pacing habit in either case was the same, a matter of no great mystery.

The Canadian horses belong to a stock that have a clear and unmistakable origin, and the dim thread of history or tradition which has followed them agrees perfectly with what we know of the actual influences which have operated upon them. But it is a fact well known to all who are acquainted with the genuine Canadians that they embrace both pacers and trotters. They have pacers among them, as there are in all countries which are similarly situated, but there is abundant reason to believe that, pacers or trotters, they have descended from the same original stock.

The principle and the reason of the adaptation of the pacer to the trotting gait I have already explained. By experience and practice, by use and employment, he has acquired a physical conformation and a psychological organism that adapts and inclines him to go at a way that is the farthest removed from the gallop—he takes to either the pace or the trot in preference to the running gait.

## CHAPTER V.

### ORIGINAL SOURCES OF TROTting BLOOD.

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#### IMPORTED MESSENGER.

THE most valuable domestic animal ever brought to our shores, as well as one of the most remarkable the world has ever produced, was the horse Imported Messenger. His ancestry possessed a character which, for the great and peculiar elements that constituted their celebrity, was as remarkable as have been the qualities for which his descendants have been distinguished in all generations. He was an in-bred horse to some degree, and his progenitors from the earliest period to his great-grandson, with one probable exception, embraced a union of the best, the purest and richest blood that could be found in the early English race-horse, freshly descended from the best Arabs and Barbs that were ever brought to that kingdom. His great-grand-sire, his grandsire, and his sire, presented a conformation and exhibited qualities totally unlike in some respects their reputed ancestry, but coupled with a capacity for great performance in no way inferior to or unworthy of their high origin. His pedigree stands recorded in the English stud-book, as follows:

MESSENGER Grey Horse, foaled in 1780, by Mambrino.

First dam, by Turf.

Sixth dam, by New Castle Turk.

Second dam, sister to Figurante, by  
Regulus.

Seventh dam, by Byerly Turk.

Eighth dam, by Taffolet Barb.

Third dam, by Bolton Starling.

Ninth dam, by Place's White Turk,  
out of a natural Barb mare.

Fourth dam, Snaps dam by Fox.

Fifth dam, Gipsev by Bay Bolton.

His male ancestry might also be set forth in like manner, as follows:

First sire, Mambrino.

(And according to the stud-book)

Second sire, Engineer.

Fourth sire, Blaze.

Third sire, Sampson.

Fifth sire, Flying Childers.

Sixth sire, Darley Arabian.

His dam's paternal ancestry would likewise be as follows:

First sire, Turf, by Matchem, by Cade, a son of Godolphin Arabian; Cade occurs twice in the pedigree of Messenger; second dam's sire was Regulus, son of Godolphin Arabian.

Goldolphin Arabian appears in the pedigree three times, and was one of the early horses that gave character to the English thoroughbred. He was the most distinguished animal in the history of the early English stud, and is acknowledged by all to have done more to improve the English race-horse than any other animal before or since. He and the Darley Arabian are often spoken of as the founders or first progenitors of the English thoroughbred, but very erroneously, as will be seen from the pedigree of Flying Childers, a son of the Darley Arabian. Flying Childers was the wonder of the early English turf, and the history of his exploits as related, can hardly be esteemed anything short of fabulous. His pedigree embraced six generations of the purest blood of the desert, and his sire has been regarded as the type and perfection of equine beauty. A close study of the several and respective pedigrees of all the animals named in the foregoing enumeration, shows that they were all in-bred in the blood of the early imported Arabs and Barbs, but in hardly any case in so close degree as to be regarded objectionable, according to the principles laid down in Chapter I. The list embraces the most distinguished performers on the English turf, and almost every animal named was of great merit, either as a great racer or the progenitor of race-horses.

Of Darley Arabian and Godolphin Arabian I have spoken, and of Flying Childers. The latter was the sire of Blaze, a distinguished race-horse and winner of many prizes. He is credited as being the sire of Sampson, the point in the recorded pedigree of Messenger, the most difficult to comprehend in the origin of the qualities displayed and for so many generations transmitted in very wonderful degree. On the dam's side, the pedigree of Messenger is in no respect different from the horses above named, prior to Sampson. Turf, Matchem and Regulus were successful race-horses and sires, and Cade was successful as a sire, while all were of the finest, the purest and most blood-like to be found in the list of the early English race-horses immediately descended from the Arabs and Barbs. With Sampson qualities of a character not displayed by any previous members entered into the family. As compared with the lithe and beautiful Barb-like form and finish of Childers and the Darley Arabian, Sampson was as coarse and homely as a cart-horse. The editor of the Trotting Register in his monthly, says:

I find no hesitancy or disagreement among the English authorities; they all give the pedigree alike. It seems to be the fate of nearly all horses that greatly distinguish themselves, from the days of Sampson and English Eclipse to Ethan Allen and Dexter, [and he might have added Sir Archy], to have their parentage doubted; these stories generally originate with grooms and stable boys, or with the owners of rival stallions; in this case the story was, that the dam of Sampson had been covered by a cart-horse, and his immense bone and strength seemed to sustain it.

The editor, who is himself a compiler of pedigrees, might have added that owners sometimes were unwilling to acknowledge a stain in a pedigree, and caused a more fashionable but spurious one to go upon the record and come down to ages when it could not be refuted for want of knowledge of facts well known to the contemporaries of the horse.

This horse Sampson was foaled in 1745, and was a black horse. His reputed and recorded sire Blaze was a bay; his sire, Flying Childers, was a chestnut—by which is meant a sorrel; and the Darley Arabian was most likely of the same color.

The color of his dam is not given, but she was Babboon's dam, by Hip, son of Curwen's bay Barb; and in a family where the prevailing color was bay, grey or chestnut, with an occasional brown, a black being very uncommon.

Godolphin Arabian was a brown, but then as now the bays and chestnuts formed the great majority of the blood horses.

One of the earliest English writers on the horse, Lawrence, says:

I am by no means disposed to retract my opinion concerning Robinson's Sampson. Not only did the account of the groom appear to me to be entitled to credit, but the internal evidence of the horse's having had in him a cross of common blood is sufficiently strong by appearance both of the horse himself and his stock; an idea in which every sportsman, I believe, who remembers Engineer, Mambrino and others will agree with me.

While the thoroughbred horse of that day was an animal that scarcely exceeded fourteen hands and two inches, rarely indeed reaching fifteen hands, Sampson was fifteen-two, and his measurements are given, accompanied with the statement that he was the largest-boned blood horse that was ever bred. The editor of the monthly above referred to says:

The question here keeps pressing itself to the front and demanding an answer as to where this great "cart-horse" bone development came from. There is nothing known of any of his ancestors that will justify us in pointing to this one or that one as transmitting it.

In Engineer, his son—a brown horse—the same coarseness and

general characteristics again appear, although not in so great degree as in Sampson.

The dam of Engineer seems to have been a blood mare, by Young Greyhound, and his grandam was by Curwen's bay Barb—a very popular horse, from Morocco—presented to Louis XIV of France by Muley Ishmail of Morocco.

Engineer, though rough and coarse as might have been expected, was a horse of great substance, and won seven races out of twelve while on the turf, and produced in the stud several good animals, the best of which was Mambrino. This latter horse reproduced much of the coach-horse coarseness of Sampson. He was a grey, with an immense forequarter and shoulder, rising into a crest, wholly unlike any blood horse that ever appeared on the turf. He was stout in every point—bone, sinew and muscle. Whyte, a recent historian of the English turf, says of him, that he was sire of a great many excellent hunters and strong, useful road horses; and it has been said of him that from his blood the breed of horses for the coach was brought nearly to its present state of perfection.

The coarseness of Mambrino, like that of Sampson, seems to have been only in the great weight and size of his bone and frame, for he evinced no lack of superior quality. His dam was a daughter of Cade, a son of the Godolphin Arabian.

From all the accounts that come to us, these two horses seem to have been the strongest and heaviest boned animals of the English turf; and aside from the color of Sampson—black being the prevailing color in one family of English cart or heavy road horses—they each possessed and transmitted to their descendants other qualities not characteristic of the highly and purely bred race-horse. They had elements of a trotting or road gait—the way of going adopted or chosen by all animals that travel in harness on the road—and which is more suitable for that way of going than any other gait. This fact is eminently suggestive that there must have been some real truth in the reported coach-horse paternity of Sampson; and the only real argument against the acceptance of this story is the almost prodigious merit and capability of both Sampson and his grandson, Mambrino.

Sampson, coach-horse as he was, appeared almost as great a prodigy as Flying Childers or Eclipse, neither of which was ever beaten in a race. Sampson, as a race-horse, beat all his competitors in races of four miles and under, until his last race, in which he won the first heat.



Lawrence, the writer above referred to, says:

His dip of plebian blood, however little or much it might be, can scarcely be called a blot, even in the escutcheon of Sampson, since such accidental crosses, although they are not recorded, must inevitably have happened, as well in our English as our Southern breeds; and since Sampson at light as well as heavy weights beat the best horses of his day. Indeed Sampson at twenty and perhaps fifteen stone would have beaten over the course both Flying Childers and Eclipse, and have double-distanced Bonny Black. When Sampson was led out at Malton to start for his first race, I have been told by a spectator, that the grooms made themselves merry with the idea that Mr. Robinson had brought a coach horse to start for the plate. My informant represented him as a true game horse, and as having a great stride. Some of his stock were the best runners of their time. But Sampson's blood has always been unfashionable, chiefly, I believe, because the stock run to so large a size.

Mambrino ran until he was eleven years old; he won a large majority of his races, and received forfeit from many good horses.

On the supposition that the sire of Sampson was a horse of coarse blood, or cart-horse, as he was called—whatever his quality as such was—how can we account for the superiority of Sampson and Mambrino as race-horses? The question grows in importance and difficulty when we extend the view, as we shall before the close of this chapter, to the remarkable superiority of Messenger and his descendants in our own country. Could he receive the infusion of inferior blood and the great coarseness of bone and conformation, and yet retain that excellence of quality which made him so great a horse, and which marked his descendants for so many generations? The effects of such a cross, if it was one of really inferior blood, might be expected to be seen in the first produce, but would gradually give place, under the preponderating influence of superior blood, in its subsequent crosses, and under its more potent influence, and might be expected at the end of three or four generations to disappear or become hardly perceptible. But such was not the case. Mambrino, the thoroughbred son of Messenger, and Dove, the part-bred grandson, besides many of his other descendants, displayed in great and eminent degree the peculiar qualities of coarseness and excellence that distinguished Sampson and the first Mambrino.

Several important questions are here presented, but which may not be easily solved.

First—Had the dam of Sampson such a concentration of good blood as would enable her to produce a horse of such superiority and so exceedingly impressive as a sire himself, from a low or ill-bred sire?

We must all agree that by force of all known principles of breeding, she had not.

Secondly—Was it possible for Blaze, the son of Flying Childers, and grandson of the Darley Arabian, and descended from the purest of blood on his dam's side, to have produced such a great black coach horse in bone and conformation as Sampson, from a mare so well-bred as was his dam, although her pedigree does not extend beyond four crosses in blood known to be pure?

We must all agree that by the law that like produces like, he could not; and must therefore conclude that Sampson was not the son of Blaze and grandson of the great Childers. Furthermore, when it becomes clearly established that Sampson possessed and transmitted to his descendants to remote generations, a trotting instinct, a nerve organism or temperament, that inclined them to trot rather than gallop, the laws of heredity clearly assert that he did not come from Blaze, a son of Flying Childers; for all persons acquainted with the character of the English race-horses descended from the pure Arab, know that they possessed no such instincts. What they did not possess they could not transmit. Sampson inherited this quality from his sire, but that sire was not the son of Childers.

The mystery about his breeding lies in the fact that we are not advised as to the blood quality or character of the alleged cart or coach horse, but have assumed that because he was heavy boned and coarse, he was lacking in good blood, in the face of the most decisive proof that he possessed quality of the most positive character.

His characteristic points were clearly evident in the composition of the horse produced, and his positiveness and impressiveness as a sire are manifest in Sampson and Mambrino and in Messenger and his descendants to this day. He was an outcross, but an outcross is calculated to infuse vigor and increased size and hardiness into the offspring, and if it be of two bloods that assimilate, the good and powerful qualities of each are apt to be retained. Such seemed to be the case here. The speed and real fineness of quality in the Arab-English mare were retained and blended with the increased weight of bone and apparent coarseness of carcass in the coach horse; the nerve force and vital temperament of the fleet courser were also retained and engrafted upon an animal of great physical superiority, endowed with the trotting instincts of the roadster, and what was bred in the blood came out and continues to come out in the bone. It may be

an anomaly in breeding, but there is no other way of accounting for it, and this hypothesis is within the known and probable facts.

An animal thus bred from two diverse elements would not breed out his distinctive qualities alike. Some of his offspring would go back toward the race-horse type; the coach-horse qualities would be stronger in some than in others, and this unequal manifestation would mark his descendants, and the history of the family proves this to be true, Mambrino was more of a coach horse than Engineer, his own sire, and Messenger transmitted that quality still more powerfully but unequally to his own offspring. Mambrino, Hambletonian, Dove and Abdallah ranked together as the representatives of one class, while Potomac, Tippoo Saib, Sir Solomon, Miller's Damsel and Fair Rachel represented the racing class.

If it be said that this theory has no parallel in breeding, I point to the case of the little black pacer, Pilot. He might be called a low-bred horse in some respects, although he came from good blood in the remote past. He was less than fifteen hands high, but could pace a mile in 2:26, carrying one hundred and sixty pounds on his back. Crossed with a mare that had two crosses of fine blood and fifteen hands high, he produced Pilot Jr., a horse of great substance and strength, and two inches taller than either sire or dam, and he from a mare not over fifteen hands and two inches high produced Woodburn Pilot, a great coarse, heavy-boned trotter of the coach-horse or Sampson class, sixteen and a half hands high and of immense bone and strength.

Such is the effect of an outcross when there is a union of two bloods that assimilate and blend harmoniously in the union. In the dam of Mambrino, the warm blood of the dam of Sampson would receive a further reinforcement and further refinement, but the pure strains from the Godolphin Arabian could not efface the coach-horse instincts or the coach-horse bone and powerful conformation already implanted in the stock.

When we come to the dam of Messenger she was a mare "pure as milk," to use the phrase of an Arab—having two near crosses of the Godolphin Arabian, and deeply in-bred in the pure blood of the desert—but for all that, the impress of the coach horse could not be effaced. His quality of blood was too positive and his impressiveness as a sire was too great to yield to all the blood of Arabia.

Inasmuch as we know that there were in England, in the immediate district where Sampson was bred and spent his days, a race of road

horses that could trot a mile in three minutes and could trot seventeen miles within the hour—a race whose trotting instincts are not surpassed by any that we have in our own country at this day—we need have no difficulty in ascertaining the origin of the animal that possessed the qualities exhibited in the horse under consideration. While the thoroughbred was mainly bred from the blood of the desert, the English hunter and English hackney were doubtless very superior horses. The great weights carried across hedges, walls and ditches, and across a wide expanse of country, in the fox chase, could only be done by animals of great ability.

The sire of Sampson was not a low or ill-bred animal, although not a grandson of the Darley Arabian. Besides the matter of color—black being the prevailing color in that part of England for the road or coach horse—the family of Sampson have one other point that marks them indelibly as having a trace of the blood of the black Lincolnshire horse, namely, the flat or round and low withers. This is a peculiarity of the Messenger horse of to-day in the highest and best form. Put your hand on the withers of Blackwood, one of his finest representatives living, and you see in the low, round, almost flat withers, the united effect of several close and direct crosses of Messenger blood.

H. W. Herbert, the accomplished writer on the English horse, says of the colors of the coach horses descended from the Suffolk Punch, Lincolnshire horse and Cleveland bays crossed for many generations with the blood of thoroughbreds and the best English stallions, that they are often found dark browns with cinnamon muzzles; which is a favorite color, being supposed to indicate hardness. Did this color, which is so common in the descendants of Hambletonian, ever suggest itself to any of my readers as an evidence of coach-horse descent?

Mr. Herbert is sufficient authority for the statement that the pure original races of Lincolnshire, Cleveland bay and Suffolk Punch horses have almost disappeared in England, from the custom that has now prevailed for over a century, of crossing the thoroughbred stallions on this stock, and recrossing the same class of stallions successively on the produce thus obtained; that by such means a race of black coach horses has been produced, in every way one of great superiority.

That the sire of Sampson was one thus descended from the Black Lincolnshire horse, in the remote past, admits of hardly a doubt. His low and straight shoulder, his flat or round withers, his color, and his

coarse conformation and high quality, all go to show that such was his origin. If we can't get along with the fact of his performance, we are compelled to leave that with him. He got along with it. The shoulder and withers of Messenger were not those of a thoroughbred, although the blood of the racer had almost complete sway in the composition of his family for many generations.

While the sire of Sampson could not have been a pure thoroughbred, he must have had a very large percentage of that blood. The custom of breeding the racing sire to the black Lincolnshire mare, and then for several generations successively repeating the same resort to the thoroughbred sire, would in three or four crosses produce a coach horse of such qualities in high degree as Sampson himself displayed. As I have shown in Chapter III, on the employment of racing blood, it can not be employed with entire success except by gradual approaches—using at all times the racing blood in the sire instead of the dam. In this way a stallion could have been produced that would have evinced great stamina and united in high degree the qualities of the two diverse stocks from which he came. The dam of Sampson united with such a sire doubtless gave us the great progenitor of the trotting family of Messengers. It was believed in the day of Sampson, and it can not otherwise be accounted for at this time.

As I have said, the impressiveness of the sire of Sampson was evinced in the other traits even more strikingly than the weight of bone and the coarseness that prevailed throughout his entire conformation. Long use on the road in harness had done for him what employment under the saddle for generations had done for the ancestry of Blaze and Flying Childers. It had implanted in him a nervous organization, a temperament or inclination toward a particular way of going, that amounted to an instinct or innate habit of mind, which inclined him and his family to that way of going rather than the elastic and far-leaping gait of the race-horse. He had some capacity for galloping, but less inclination. When forced to a rate of speed greater than his trotting capacity, he could and would gallop. This instinct or mental organism was engrafted on Sampson and blended with his race-horse temperament, in the same manner that the perfect union and blending of the blood and character of the two parent stocks were united, and the result was a horse of great superiority and marked character in every respect.

There has not been a particle of trotting quality displayed in the families of Arabs, Barbs and English thoroughbreds outside of this

scion thus engrafted, and yet no one in the light of history can question the fact that the blood of Sampson has been full of adaptation to the trotting gait—in coach horses, road horses, and the great trotters of the turf in every generation since his day. Let it be borne in mind that Useful Cub, the famous English trotter, that trotted seventeen miles in less than an hour, was descended from Sampson, the same number of removes as our imported Messenger, his dam being by a son of Sampson. When I come to speak of imported Bellfounder, I shall recur to this fact, and we shall probably see to what further extent the blood of Sampson, through this channel, has influenced the stock of our American roadster.

I have already called attention to the credit that has been given to Mambrino for the influence his blood has had upon the stock of English coach horses. All cotemporaries agree that they showed a remarkable adaptation to the trotting gait, and it has been transmitted to us, that Lord Grosvenor, the owner of Mambrino, offered to match Mambrino to trot fourteen miles in an hour, for one thousand guineas. This, for an untrained horse and one not used for harness purposes, would be regarded as fast going. Mambrino was probably more of a trotter than Messenger, and would in all probability have surpassed him as the progenitor or founder of a race of roadsters. He was one degree closer to the coach horse, and less modified in form and instinct by the pure Arab blood. The dam of Messenger was strongly in-bred in the purest strains known in England. Any one who has closely studied the crossing of the trotter with the blood of Diomed, Sir Archy, and other pure-bred horses in this country, has seen that the effect is a gradual shortening of the line from hip to hock, and also a lengthening of the distance from the hock to the ground—longer rear cannons. This is the galloping leverage; the reverse is the trotting leverage. If we could find a coarse and in-bred descendant of Mambrino in England, and import him to cross on our trotting stock, it would be the only resort to any form of racing blood that I could suggest or advocate.

Little is known with regard to the trotting capacity of Messenger, as he was never used for any purpose that would afford opportunity for the exercise of his abilities in that direction. Of his immediate and remote descendants I shall speak further along.

Messenger was bred by John Pratt, Esq., of Newmarket, England, and was owned during his racing career by Mr. Bullock. He seems to have been imported into this country by a Mr. Benger, arriving at

Philadelphia in the year 1788, or when he was about eight years old. It is intimated that he spent a short time in Ireland before coming to this country. He spent the remainder of his life—twenty years—in the States of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York, and died on the 28th of January, 1808, at the place of Mr. Townsend Cock, on Long Island.

So much has been written about Messenger, and so many have undertaken to describe him, that it seems like undertaking a task already threadbare. A cotemporary, in a letter to the author of *Horses and Horsemanship of America*, spoke thus concerning him:

But immeasurably superior to all others was Messenger; who, take him all in all, is unquestionably the best horse ever brought to America. He not only produced race-horses of the first order, both at long and short distances, but as roadsters his get were unequalled. His large, bony head, rather short neck, with windpipe and nostrils nearly twice as large as ordinary, with his low withers, and shoulders somewhat upright, but deep, close and strong. But behind these lay the perfection and power of the machine. His barrel, loin, hips and quarters were incomparably superior to all others. His hocks and knees were unusually large; below them his limbs were of medium size, but flat, strong and remarkably clean, and, either in standing or in action, their position was perfect.

Mr. Wallace, in his monthly, has given an extended account of Messenger, and from the various descriptions of him extant has given his impressions, which, although not entirely agreeing with my own, I give in part as follows:

He was a grey, that became lighter and flea-bitten with age. He was fifteen hands and three inches high, and, for a thoroughbred, his appearance was coarse. He did not supply the mind with an idea of beauty, but he impressed upon it a conception of solidity and power. His head was large and bony, with a nose that had a decided Roman tendency, though not to a marked degree. His nostrils were unusually large and flexible, and when distended they were enormous. His eye was large, full, very dark, and remarkably brilliant. His ear was larger than usual in the blood horse, but thin and tapering, and always active and expressive. The windpipe was so unusually large, and stood out so much as a distinct feature, that it marred what otherwise would have been a game-like throat-latch and setting on of the head. His neck was very short for a blood horse, but was not coarse and thick like a bull's; neither did it rise into such an immense crest as that of his sire. It was not a bad neck in any sense, but, like Lexington's of our own day, it was too short to be handsome. His mane and foretop were thin and light. His withers were low and round, which appears to have been a family characteristic in the male line back for three generations at least. His shoulders were heavy, and altogether too upright for ideas of a race-horse. His barrel was perfection itself, both in

depth and rotundity. His loin was well arched, broad and strong. His hips and quarters were "incomparably superior to all others." The column of the vertebra, being of unusual depth and strength, gave the setting on of the tail a distinctive but elegant character. The tail was carried in fine style; like the mane, it was not in superabundant quantity, but there was no such scantiness as to detract from the beauty and grace of the animal. His stifles were well spread and swelling, but there appears to have been no unusual development at this point. From the stifle to the hock, and from the elbow to the knee, no writer that we can now recall has given us a description of either length or strength. We may, therefore, take it for granted these points had no unusual development of muscle, but were in harmony with the general contour and make-up of a great, strong horse. His hocks and knees were unusually large and bony, with all the members strong and clearly defined. The cannon-bones were short and flat, and the ligaments back of them were very large and braced a good way off, so that the leg was broad and flat.

\* \* \* \* \*

The conviction is reasonable, and grows out of evidence that comes from every quarter, and we have no disposition to surrender it, that the bones of Messenger's limbs were unusually large and strong for those of a thoroughbred. His pasterns and feet were all that could be desired; and as an evidence of the excellence and health of his underpinning, several writers have put it on record that, whether in the stable or on the show-ground, he never was known to mopingly rest one leg by standing on the other three, but was always prompt and upright.

\* \* \* \* \*

From this description, it is a very easy matter to pick out the features which gave him his coarse and badly bred appearance. His big head, long ears, short neck, low withers, upright shoulders, large bones, and, possibly, coarse hair, complete the catalogue.

\* \* \* \* \*

The coarseness, the cart-horse appearance, was in the family, but it did not seem to prevent them from beating some of the best that England produced in successive generations.

I may add to the above, that from a close study of many of the descendants of Messenger of the present generation, and those coming from various separate and united lines of descent, I am satisfied that he transmitted to his offspring a certain proportion or physical conformation with very marked uniformity. They display a medium leverage—a length from hip to hock of about 39 inches, and a thigh 23 inches, a long forearm and a short front cannon; they are not wide at the stifle, and do not make a great display of motion in trotting action. It is altogether probable that Sampson, and perhaps Mambrino, may have been somewhat longer in the rear leverage than Messenger. The long line of racing blood through which his dam and



that of Mambrino came, would have a strong tendency to modify the coach-horse conformation, just as our own experience in breeding our trotting stock on thoroughbred crosses has a tendency to go back toward the thoroughbred standard, and shorten both the thigh and the line from hip to hock. That of Messenger was very close to the thoroughbred model.

The low and round withers spoken of are almost flat, and the shoulder blades rise nearly even with the top of the withers, but a firmer or more closely interwoven mass of ligaments, flesh and bone never was found surmounting the shoulders of any horse than that which belongs to the Messenger. The hoof is one of very superior quality, and generally of good size, widening out in the descent from the coronet, and rarely a flat or broad base. Added to this, he is marked with the most perfect freedom from disease or infirmity of any kind. No family that ever lived on this continent equals them in their entire exemption from all inherent tendency toward spavins, curbs, ringbones, or other diseases arising from inflammation and inability to absorb the synovial and other secretions. In point of temper, they have not been regarded as amiable, but it can be said they have the intelligence to appreciate kindness and will not tolerate abuse. Messenger and many of his sons and early descendants, including Abdallah, were represented as displaying a temper that was absolutely ferocious, and many were they who paid the penalty of undue and careless familiarity with them.

Messenger spent his twenty years of American life in that region where the custom of driving the horse in harness for business and for pleasure had its chief origin and most universal prevalence. A large part of his own produce were but part-bred and came from crosses with the best road mares of the region where he stood. The same may be said of several of his sons that have ranked as thoroughbreds, the more distinguished of these latter being Hambletonian, Mambrino, and Ogden's Messenger. As might be expected his blood was widely disseminated in that and the adjacent parts of the country, and enters largely into the principal roadster families of the continent.

A review of the early trotters of Messenger descent, and a tracing of the origin of the several families who owe their trotting quality to his blood, will show, in more complete manner than any other, the importance and value of his blood to the American roadster and trotting horse. The two sons of Messenger whose immediate influence on the trotting stock of this country was the greatest, were Mambrino

and Hamiltonian, the latter named in honor of Alexander Hamilton, but the name was in later years changed to Hambletonian. The former was a thoroughbred, and the latter was claimed to be such, but the pedigree has been doubted and is questionable. Mambrino was a large and very coarse horse for a thoroughbred, and was pronounced a natural trotter in his day. He produced Abdallah, the king of trotting stallions, of whom a more particular account will be given in the chapter on Hambletonian. He also produced Almack, the founder of the Champion family.

Hambletonian, son of Messenger, produced the early trotters Whalebone and Sir Peter, and the great trotting sires, Harris' Hambletonian and Judson's Hambletonian, from the latter of which came Andrus' Hambletonian, the sire of Princess. He stands as the paternal head of one of the greatest of our trotting families.

Engineer, another son, left us the sire of Lady Suffolk, and Tippoo Saib gave us the sire of the famous Dutchman, whose three-mile performance stood unequalled for thirty years, and was then beaten by Huntress, daughter of Volunteer, a deeply in-bred descendant of Messenger.

Through Commander, another son, came the line of blood that gave us Screwdriver, Screws, Bull Calf, and other trotters of the early day.

From Winthrop Messenger came chiefly the trotting stock of that name so celebrated in the State of Maine.

From Saratoga came the in-bred grandson, Dove, one of the truest of the Messengers in all that marks them as a family, and from him came, as I think the evidences show, the celebrated Amazonia, the dam of the incomparable Abdallah. Mount Holly, another son, gave us Paul Pry, one of the early trotting celebrities. Coriander, another son, gave us old Top Gallant, the most celebrated of the early day trotters. Ogden's Messenger, a thoroughbred, laid the foundation of more than one great trotting family.

It is not compatible with the limits of this sketch, for me to enumerate all the distinguished animals that have been numbered among the descendants of Messenger. Many other families have been brought into notice and been accredited as entitled to some distinction from the fortunate circumstance of having in the composition of some noted member a cross of Messenger blood.

Trustee gained reputation by the performance of a son trotting twenty miles within an hour, but the dam of the trotter was a daughter of Winthrop Messenger.

The Morse horse, sire of Norman, the sire of Blackwood and Swigert, was descended on the dam's side from two different sons of Messenger.

Rhode Island, the sire of Gov. Sprague, derived all the known trotting blood he possessed from his descent from Romp, a daughter of Messenger.

The family known as Royal Georges and Panics descended from Ogden's Messenger, and perhaps have a cross from Hambletonian, son of Messenger.

Mambrino Chief and his family descended from Mambrino and Messenger Duroc, whose dam was a daughter of Messenger.

The American Star family came from two and perhaps three daughters of Messenger.

The great Hambletonian, of whom I shall treat fully in the next chapter, was a son of Abdallah, and an in-bred Messenger.

The Bashaw and Clay families come from a branch of the descendants of imported Grand Bashaw, that extended backward to a daughter of Messenger; of this branch of our trotting families I shall further treat in a chapter devoted to them.

The great trotting and pacing family of Cadmus descend from American Eclipse, whose dam was Miller's Damsel, the celebrated daughter of Messenger.

The Morrils, Knoxes and Ethan Allen, the best of the trotters of Morgan descent, have crosses of Messenger blood.

Small indeed is the catalogue of American trotters or trotting families, if there be any such, that do not partake of the blood and display the characteristics of the descendants of Messenger.

I have before observed that the Messengers are of an even conformation, each part seemingly closely adapted to all the others, and that they trot with an even and steady gait, less violent and demonstrative of great trotting action than many others. Their gait is rarely a faulty one. They do not at first display as great readiness or natural aptness for the trotting gait as many others, and are not so far noted as natural trotters as to excel at that gait when running loose, hence the term field-trotters rarely applies to the Messenger when his natural trotting quality is not modified by other crosses. But however little they may have for display, the extent to which they can perform when called upon, and the capacity they show for improvement, and the great age to which they continue to improve, constitute the great characteristics of the family. At first we are often prompted to say

they are not natural trotters, that their quality seems rather to be a capacity to learn—an adaptation or aptitude for the trotting gait. But in reality it is both. The trotting gait is their innate habit or inclination; it is their instinct and their special adaptation, and their readiness to improve and the great capacity they have for improvement, and the great age to which they can improve and exhibit great power, are simply the results of the inborn superiority of their blood.

It is a blood that fuses or harmonizes well with all other trotting bloods, but its natural superiority is such that it exercises a powerful and controlling influence over other bloods to a marked degree; not, indeed, that all other crosses yield to the Messenger in the peculiarities that distinguish their own families. Not by any means. As to the manner or way of going, the Messenger blood is largely controlled by many other crosses, and as the physical conformation has the larger share in controlling the gait and way of going of the trotter, so the conformation that belongs to the other trotting families, enters largely into such as are deeply crossed in Messenger blood, and thereby in marked degree affects the gait of the trotters thus bred. Such is the influence of the Duroc cross to an extent hardly equaled by any other. Such is also the influence of the cross from the blood of Diomed, St. Lawrence and some others—as we shall see further along.

The Bellfounder cross had an important influence over the Messengers, but it was less in the matter of apparent way of going than in some other respects. While the Messenger blood is in reality the most powerful and all-prevailing trotting blood ever introduced in our American trotter, and seems to be a channel that floats or carries all other bloods with it, it is one, nevertheless, that has been largely modified in its manifestations by other crosses—more particularly, however, because of the modified conformations and physical organisms that our trotters have borrowed from the other crosses than from any yielding of the force and quality of the Messenger to them in the matter of trotting quality.

A close study of the Messenger family establishes the fact, not new or mysterious to breeders of experience, that this blood, derived as it has been from two separate and dissimilar sources, exhibits the forces peculiar to each in a sort of antagonism, and that the force and power of each is displayed in proportion as circumstances are presented which favor that particular element. It is the antagonism of the trotting quality against the racing or galloping element, and it proves

that while Messenger had trotting elements, they were not the paramount or most powerful traits of his organism. This is shown in the fact that the trotting quality is not the strongest in those families that show the most of the blood of Messenger—and it is strongest in those currents or lines that have come through channels where the trotting instinct received some even slight reinforcement from other blood, or from use and employment in that way.

Often the highest excellences of the trotting quality in the Messenger blood have come out of a single and remote line, while it is a known fact that many of the pedigrees strong in Messenger have but little of the trotting quality to show. It has been claimed that one peculiarity of this blood is, that its trotting quality comes out intensified by the reunion of previously separated channels. This is true. But if the merit was in the blood *per se*, it would come in all the greater force from the powerful concentration of the blood before the intervening separation had occurred. But it was this very separation that seemed to give opportunity for the trotting impulses to liberate from the control of the opposing forces, and when thus liberated the reunion was attended with an intensified exhibition of trotting quality.

This aspect of the blood must be carefully studied, as having an important bearing on the matter of in-breeding in the Messenger family. Doubtless the greatest excellences are to be derived from in-breeding in that blood—not in doing so closely or directly, but after proper outcrosses and at judiciously chosen intervals. Close and repeated in-breeding in that family will cause a retrograde in trotting quality, while in-breeding after proper outcrosses and at suitable intervals will enhance its value and greatly promote its adaptation to the trotting gait.

The most impressive trotting stallions we have yet seen were not as successful with the mares deep and closely in-bred in Messenger blood as with those that possessed more remote and feeble strains of that blood. Instances illustrating the disappointment of most sanguine hopes in this respect will be given in the progress of this work.

A further consideration of the qualities of Messenger is reserved for the chapter on Hambletonian and the subsequent illustrations presented in this work.





RANDOLPH & CO.

IMPORTED BELLFOUNDER,

From a Lithograph copy of the original Painting by Fisher, long since destroyed.

## IMPORTED BELLFOUNDER.

IN the equine history of this country the horse of controversy has been Bellfounder. He has been the source of more conflicting opinions than any other. By one class he has been over-estimated; by another he has been totally under-estimated; by another he has, furthermore, been willfully misrepresented. It is clear that he has not been properly understood by either class. He had great merit, and has transmitted but a part of it, and has not received the credit due him for the part he has transmitted. He secured reputation to others when they were not entitled to it from any excellences they possessed not derived from him. He possessed elements of demerit that were not understood by his friends or defamers, and which stood in the way of his greatest success and yet operate to detract from the usefulness of those possessing strains of his blood. He was an uncertain horse to cross on other strains of blood.

To his credit, be it said, his most earnest friends and most ardent admirers were those who knew him best, while those who would lightly esteem him knew but little of him; and it may be said of him who has been his chief defamer and assailant, that he actually understood nothing of either the merits of the horse or the peculiar qualities that entered into his composition, which gave him his renown or stood in the way of his success. With this one, blind and willful prejudice was the guiding star. To such an extent was he willing to carry his detraction, that in the face of living and reputable men who knew the horse well, while in the early and palmy days of his career, and who had intimate personal knowledge of the facts relative to his purchase in England, his importation to this country, the day of his arrival, the ship in which he was imported, the persons in whose custody he was placed, and all the facts of his career of twenty years in this country, this intelligent organ of popular instruction on the subject of the horse was ready to deny that Bellfounder was an imported horse, and to assert that he was a spurious Kanuck. For the furtherance of this aimless detraction, after the horse had been dead nearly forty years, this same oracle of equine history caused a search to be made at the reputed port of importation, for the bottom facts relating to the imposition that had been practiced on the American people, in the matter of the fable of the Norfolk trotter, and when the individual thus commissioned furnished the indubitable



proofs, both in regard to the facts of importation and ownership, and, in addition, many interesting particulars in regard to the history and character of the animal, the disappointment of the distinguished friend of the horse could only find vent in an effort to demolish the reputation of one Samuel Jaques, who for many years had control of Bellfounder.

The gentleman through whose efforts the facts concerning the importation of Bellfounder have been given to the public, being a man of intelligence and candor, after communicating to the editor aforesaid what seemed to be all the materials required to settle the question, and having therefor received what he complained of as a "sharp criticism," wrote again, "that so much trash and nonsense has been spread before the public regarding Bellfounder, by writers who evidently know nothing whatever of the facts in his history, that I felt it a duty, though at considerable trouble and expense, to place on record, from word of mouth, those truths which otherwise would soon be swept from human research." While this remark was directed to the editor himself, it may be proper here to say that it applies to many others, though in a less degree besides the one to whom it was addressed. Through the kindness of this gentleman I have received a lengthy statement, from which, in connection with his letters already made public, there is presented the following summary of historical facts:

Bellfounder was bred in the vicinity or district of Norfolk, England, and was there purchased by James Boott, of Boston, and shipped from Liverpool to Boston in the ship *Rasselas*, Captain Jackson, arriving in the latter city on the 11th day of July, 1822, as appears from the custom house entry; the entry being sworn to by John W. Boott, brother of the importer, and the value of the horse as per invoice, being stated at three hundred pounds sterling.

Mr. Levi S. Gould, of Boston, the gentleman to whom the public are indebted for the facts relating to Bellfounder's importation and history, says:

Who was James Boott, the importer and life-long owner of this horse; and who was Samuel Jaques, Jr., his first manager? Happily, from a lifetime spent in Boston and the adjacent county of Middlesex, I am familiar with the reputation of both these gentlemen. About the year 1775 an Englishman named Kirk Boott settled in Boston, and, fortune favoring, was soon established as a merchant on State street, in connection with three sons, John W., Kirk and James. About the year 1821 this firm was dissolved. James retired from active business, and with a competency devoted himself to such rational

enjoyments as could be found in the life of a sportsman (not gambler) of the olden time. He was a bachelor, and resided at the family mansion of the Bootts, one of the finest of its day, remodeled into our crack hotel, for that prince among landlords, the late Paran Stevens, and is the Revere House of to-day. Becoming a great sufferer from some chronic complaint, he went abroad about the year 1833, and died at the house of Dr. Boott, a brother, in the city of London.

Col. Jaques was born in Wilmington, near Boston, in 1776, and died in 1859, honored and respected by all who knew him, and they were legion. He obtained a competency previous to middle life, and for many years occupied an elegant residence, with quite a large estate attached, on Washington street, in the then town of Charlestown. In a spacious box-stall, built especially for his comfort, stood Bellfounder, from July, 1822, to December, 1828. In 1831 Col. Jaques, having met with severe financial reverses, caused by the failure of a commission house in England, to whom he had made heavy shipments of hops, purchased the celebrated Ten Hills farm, on the banks of the Mystic river, within the confines of Charlestown, and turned his attention to the breeding of first-class stock.

Mr. Jaques became eminent as a breeder of fine cattle, and in this respect his reputation was national. He also bred many fine horses, and besides Bellfounder, owned or controlled Whistle Jacket, a runner, Sherman Morgan, Black Hawk, Columbus, an imported English dray horse, and some others not worth mentioning. Bellfounder never went to Ten Hills, but was leased by his owner for five hundred dollars per year, and sent to New York in 1828. Under the management of Col. Jaques he did a good business, and left numerous colts in New England, some of which were very powerful and fast, but they were all late in coming to maturity, and showed no speed until seven or eight years of age, when they came with a rush. One of these was known as the Lowell colt, and belonged to a gentleman of that name in Salem, who paid five hundred dollars for her at three years of age. At seven she is represented to have been very fast.

Three sons of Col. Jaques are now living, viz., Samuel, William and George. Samuel, the oldest, is well advanced in years, but, with mental faculties unimpaired, bids fair to last for many years. Their recollection is remarkably clear, and no question can be asked in relation to their father's affairs which they can not answer at once. William says he rode Bellfounder many times, and always found him level-headed, and gentle as a lamb. He thinks he could trot with perfect ease in three minutes, and keep it up for many miles. He once led him by the side of a running horse *fifteen* miles, and, to use his own words, "drove as tight as he could most of the way," without Bellfounder's leaving his feet at all. During the entire distance the halter rope was always loose, and with head aloft he gazed around as though it was nothing more than exercise. Neither of them know anything of his history previous to leaving England, other than is expressed in the pedigree herewith, every word of which they religiously believe. The Colonel was possessed of a painting of Bellfounder in trotting action, executed by an artist named Fisher, which he loaned Mr. Boott. While this painting hung in Mr.

B.'s house some miscreant cut it from the frame, and it has never been seen in this locality since. Bellfounder's marks were as follows, viz.: A large star in the forehead, a little white on the end of his nose, a portion of the rear hind pastern was white, and there was a sprinkling of white over the outer coronet of the off forward foot. There was also a white mark just back of the withers, caused probably by a saddle gall. He was plump in form, and muscular in all his parts. He had a fine, slashing gait, and in the hands of skillful men, such as our trotting trainers of the present day, would doubtless have attained great speed. The pedigree of Bellfounder herewith given, was the one originally furnished by the importer, and first published, over the signature of Col. Jaques, in the *Columbian Centinel* of April 7, 1824. This paper is on file at the rooms of the Historical Society in Boston. You will notice that it materially differs from any pedigree heretofore published.

I should have stated, when speaking of the Boott family, that William, a younger brother of James, is still living in Boston. He tells me that James went to Europe many times during his life, and it was upon one of these trips that Bellfounder was purchased. The Boott family estate was in Derby, some forty or fifty miles from Norfolk, and he has no doubt but that his brother went over and purchased the horse there, and knew what he was buying. He has no records in his possession to prove the pedigree, and knows nothing of its truth, save this: having been in England about 1822, and some years afterward he distinctly recollects that a horse named Bellfounder then existed, and he thinks he was a Norfolk trotter of high repute. He also states that James imported a gelding named Defiance, also a Norfolk trotter. His brother once started with the old mail coach from Providence, which had several relays on the road, but Defiance led them all the way, and reached Boston some time in advance. When the drivers and passengers came to the stable, expecting to find this wonderful roadster dead, he was quietly eating his oats as though nothing unusual had taken place.

Subsequently, and after the sharp criticism of which Mr. Gould complained, he found one William Boutwell, an aged and very reputable man, a cousin of the late Secretary of the Treasury, Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell. This Mr. Boutwell was in the employ of Col. Jaques, and had charge of Bellfounder for four years. He stated that one Samuel Jones had charge of the horse for a short time previous to himself, and that he succeeded William Baxter, a thoroughgoing English jockey, who accompanied the horse from Great Britain. This Mr. Boutwell was well acquainted with the owner of the horse, Mr. James Boott, and often talked with him when he called at the stable where the animal was kept. Mr. Boutwell also furnished Mr. Gould with an old card on which was printed an advertisement with blanks for the date in full and the price of service, but which was filled out exactly as follows, viz.:

J. Drewry, Printer, Derby.

**Bellfounder,**

THE WONDERFUL NORFOLK TROTTER,

IMPORTED JULY 1822 *from* ENGLAND,**TO COVER**

THIS SEASON, 1823

At 20 Dollars and —6— Shillings the Groom.

*The Money to be paid to the Groom at Covering.*

THIS celebrated Horse is a beautiful bright Bay, with black legs, 7 years old, standing 15 hands high; his superior blood, symmetry, and action exceed every other trotting Stallion. He is allowed by the best Judges in Norfolk to be the fastest and best bred Horse ever sent out of that County. He has proved himself a sure foal getter, and his Stock for size and substance are not to be surpassed; they are selling at the highest prices of any Horses in Norfolk.

BELLFOUNDER was got by that well known fast and high formed Trotter OLD BELLFOUNDER, out of Velocity, by Haphazard, by Sir Peter, out of Miss Hervey, by Eclipse; grandam was of good North Country Blood, but not thorough bred. VELOCITY, trotted on the Norwich road in 1806 *sixteen* miles in one hour, and tho' she broke 15 times into a gallop, *and as often turned round*, won her match. In 1808 she trotted *Twenty-eight* miles in one hour and 47 minutes, and has also done many other great performances against time.

BELLFOUNDER at five years old trotted *Two miles* in *Six minutes* and in the following year was matched for 200 guineas to trot *Nine miles* in *Thirty minutes*, which he won *easily* by *Twenty two seconds*. His Owner, shortly after *challenged* to perform with him *Seventeen miles and a half* in one hour, *but it was not accepted*. He has since never been saddled or matched.

OLD BELLFOUNDER was a true descendant from the original blood of the *Fireaways*, which breed of Horses stands unrivalled for the Saddle, either in this or any other nation. BELLFOUNDER is strongly recommended to the public, by Mr. S. GOOCH, of Chelmsford, and by Mr. WOODFIELD, Moorfields, London.

*Stands at Saml. Jaques Jr's Stable in*  
*Charlestown, Mass.*\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Boutwell stated that he received that card in 1823 when he took charge of the horse, and that he understood these cards were printed in England by order of Mr. Boott, and sent here, with the dates and prices of service to be filled out from year to year as occasion might require.

The points that have been selected in this account as particularly assailable, are the performances of Velocity and her pedigree. To this the reply is obvious, that Mr. Boott was not the breeder and took the horse with the account furnished him in the district where he had been bred and kept, and if these people were strictly infallible and perfectly accurate on all matters that pertained to the descent and performances of horseflesh, they showed no traits of kinship to their American cousins. Besides, the accuracy of the pedigree can only be impeached by the age of the horses—Haphazard and Velocity—it being alleged that the first foal of Haphazard was not dropped until after 1806, the date of this performance. If the identity of these animals is shown or conceded, then this only shows that this mare Velocity was not the daughter of Haphazard, or that a mistake has been made in the date of her alleged performance, but no way touches the fact of her being the dam of imported Bellfounder. As to the performance of Velocity on the Norwich road it is reasonable to grant the same allowance for it that must be made for many alleged performances in this country where the record is silent.

Some very notable examples have occurred at an early hour in the morning, or on a Sunday or some other occasion in the presence of several reliable gentlemen, that have been questioned quite as severely as the performance above referred to. But after all, the only error may be in the date of her alleged performance. There are many persons now living who well remember Bellfounder and bear testimony to his natural trotting action, such as can scarcely be applied to any horse of our own day, because not precisely like it. It is also evident that such was the reputation of the horse in his own day, and that such reputation extended from Boston to New York, and was strongly impressed on the minds and memories of many persons of that day in these respective localities. Mr. Gould further says:

In my conversation with William Boutwell, I asked him if he ever saw the old horse trot at his speed. In reply, he stated that he was never saddled but once to his knowledge, it being the custom to lead him by the side of a running horse in his exercise, or walk him as occasion required. On this occasion, however, a gentleman came to Charlestown from New York, especially to see

him in motion. The running horse had been disposed of some time before, and Bellfounder had received nothing but walking exercise for a long time, and was in no condition to show. However, Col. Jaques ordered him saddled, and he (Boutwell) mounted, endeavoring to trot him in a circle marked out in a large field near the house. He started on a run, and could not be brought down. Finally, Col. Jaques, out of all patience, directed him to let him have his head, and run until he was satisfied. This proved successful; and in a few moments he struck a magnificent stride and trotted, until the gentleman threw up his hands and exclaimed that he was perfectly satisfied, and ready to believe all he had heard or read about him.

From information that has been more recently made public by the brother of James Boott, it has been definitely ascertained that the horse Bellfounder cost in England the sum of seven hundred pounds sterling, from which we may form some idea of the value or estimation that was placed upon him in the place where he was bred.

I dismiss this part which pertains to the question of controversy about his importation—a fact which nobody ever doubted, and turn to the inquiry as to the origin and blood qualities of this horse.

So little interest has been taken in the trotting horse in England, that it is a matter of difficulty to obtain any light on the blood or descent of those animals that have shown adaptation to the trotting gait, notwithstanding that the original and parent stock of our best trotting horses came from England, and there acquired their instincts and mental as well as physical traits, which have in this country developed into such great superiority on the road and track. We have heard much of the Norfolk trotters, and in the card above set forth which accompanied Bellfounder from England, and was undoubtedly printed there, we are told that he was seven years old in 1823, and that his superior blood, symmetry and action excel every other trotting stallion; that he was allowed by the best judges in Norfolk to be the fastest and best bred horse ever sent out of that county; that he had proved himself a sure foal getter, and that his stock were selling at the highest prices of any in Norfolk; that he at five years of age had trotted two miles in six minutes, and in the following year was matched to trot nine miles in thirty minutes, and accomplished the feat easily, having twenty-two seconds to spare; that his owner shortly after challenged to perform with him seventeen and a half miles in one hour but it was not accepted; that since that time he had never been saddled or matched. Such were the statements made concerning him by his importer at the time of his importation, and in this connection it may be stated, that Mr. Gould obtained from another aged gentleman,

Mr. Alfred Worcester, the statement that he was employed in the office of Col. Jaques from 1818 until 1826, and distinctly remembered Mr. Boott as a gentleman—a horseman who frequently came to that office and talked with Col. Jaques about importing a horse; and that he remembers the horse, and that all the time he was in possession of Col. Jaques, Mr. Boott appeared as the owner. From this it reasonably appears that pursuant to some plan or understanding between Col. Jaques and Mr. Boott, the latter selected and imported the horse, and caused the cards to be printed in England which accompanied the importation; and further, that both he and Col. Jaques were persuaded of the authenticity of the pedigree given, and the other statements made concerning the family and performances of Bellfounder. It is further stated that he was by that well-known, fast and high-formed trotter, Old Bellfounder, and that he was a true descendant from the original blood of the *Fireaways*—a breed of horses standing unrivaled for the saddle, either in this or any other nation. The district of Norfolk has been noted for trotting matches that rival some of our own. In a veterinary work published in 1835, by George Skeavington, entitled the “Model Farrier,” we have an account of a large number of trotting performances, among others, of a mare called Nonpareil, trotting in a vehicle called a match-cart, one hundred miles in nine hours and fifty-seven seconds. She was owned by Mr. Dixon, of Knightsbridge, and was driven by W. Stacy, of Kingston. Her sire was “Fireaway,” owned by Wm. Flanders, of Little Port, Isle of Ely; these places all being in the county of Norfolk or adjacent thereto. The same work speaks of the Fireaways as having better staying qualities than some other of their trotting stock.

In the old *Spirit of the Times*, Vol. IX, there appeared an article, copied from the *London Sunday Times*, May, 1839, relating to Mr. Theobald’s stud—being a description of his several stallions. The following relates to the

#### NORFOLK PHENOMENON.

This extraordinary animal was bred by Mr. Wayman, of Lillyput, in the Isle of Ely. He was got by Fireaway, out of a Shields mare, and is reputed to be the fastest trotter that ever stepped. He is known to have performed two miles in five minutes and four seconds, and is also said to have trotted twenty-four miles an hour. This surpasses the celebrated Phenomenon mare or any performances of the fastest American horses. He has a crest resembling the Godolphin Arabian, is short-legged, but standing over a great length of ground. He is as strong as a buffalo; indeed, his great muscular delineation, and the

immensity of his bone, give him the resemblance of an animal of that class. He shows, however, a vast deal of blood. His color is bay; he has lost both eyes, but is in other respects totally free from blemish, very quiet, of excellent constitution, and remarkably safe goer, notwithstanding his almost incredible speed.

Mr. Lawrence, the author quoted in the previous part of this chapter, says that "to Shields and Useful Cub the Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk are in a great measure indebted for their fame in the production of capital hackneys." This would tend to show that this region had some "fame" in regard to its trotting or road horses before Mr. Boott went there for Bellfounder. I have in the previous part of this chapter shown that the dam of Useful Cub was by a son of Sampson, which would show that the stock or blood of Sampson was recognized in this district as of value in the coach or trotting horse. It is further stated that this Useful Cub was produced by a Suffolk cart-horse from a daughter of Golden Farmer, a son of Sampson, from which the inference would be very strong that the blood and trotting quality came from the dam or granddaughter of Sampson.

Mr. Lawrence says that Shields—also called Shales and Scott—was a son of Blank; hence, he regards Blank as the father of the trotting families of England. Blank was a thoroughbred son of Godolphin Arabian, and had perhaps as much to do in implanting the trotting instincts in this family as Blaze had in imparting them to Sampson, the dam of Shields having doubtless been a road mare that possessed such qualities and the ability to transmit the same.

Lawrence says the dam of Useful Cub was a chapman's mare—by which we understand a mare driven by a marketman or peddler—and as she was a granddaughter of Sampson, the inquiry is suggested, whether she was the equal of her kindred in blood and occupation, the dam of Hambletonian and that of Goliah and Mambrino Chief. History repeats itself.

The same author says the trotting stock of Cub have run too much upon the round shoulder and buttock, and have been more remarkable for their speed than stoutness. He also speaks of the then fastest trotter ever tried in England as having been bred in Norfolk. He was called Archer, and was supposed to have been by old Shields. He trotted a mile under three minutes.

Mr. Lawrence further says:

As Archer was the speediest, the well known brown mare which died the property of Bishop proved herself the stoutest, that is to say, the most lasting trotter in the world. This mare was full fifteen and a half hands high, with



bone enough to carry twenty stone; showed some blood, with a mixture of the cart breed, such as we frequently see in farmers' hacks. Her neck was short, her forehead well elevated, her shoulder deep and counter form, but not oblique, nor was she proportionally deep in the girth. She had sufficient general length, but was not long in the back, yet had plenty of room between her ribs and huggon bones, with good fillets. Her quarters were amply spread and stood well before. In her latter days she was a dashing goer, inclining to run, but was never remarkable for speed, nor ever able, as I understand, to trot a mile in three minutes. In the year 1783, or thereabouts, she trotted over the Epsom road sixteen miles in fifty-eight and one-half minutes, carrying twelve stone.

We have also an account of Black Tom, foaled about 1789, by Black Smuggler, there being several Smugglers of considerable fame. The dam of Black Tom was by Useful Cub. He was a Norfolk trotter. When four years old he trotted sixteen miles in less than an hour; when five years old he trotted sixteen and a half miles within an hour, and in the same year trotted sixteen miles in fifty-seven minutes ten seconds. He made several other performances in about the same time, beating the best horses in England.

In this same connection it may be mentioned that in 1790 there was imported from England a horse called Nimrod, and all his lifetime called a Norfolk trotter. He was at all times claimed to be more than an ordinary trotter. He was bred by T. Jenkinson, the owner of Useful Cub, and he certifies that he was brother to that horse, "which was the first trotter in the world." He also states that his dam was by Golden Farmer, son of Sampson, and that both these latter horses were in great repute in the breeding counties.

The two animals last named bring us to about the days of old Bellfounder, the sire of imported Bellfounder.

Mr. Lawrence says of the trotters of this period that they were of two distinct shapes—the one blood like, with the counter shoulder and deep girth; the other of the round barrel and buttock, and too often of the round-legged form. The former were obviously enough bred from the first Shales and Pretender, both of which had half racing blood, the latter from Useful Cub. Those who were acquainted with Bellfounder in this country, and who have studied the physical conformation and blood traits of his descendants, will have no difficulty in discovering the blood features and predominant characteristics of both of these classes in clearly marked outline.

As before stated, Bellfounder, while under the control of Col. Jaques, was leased for a term of five years to some gentlemen in the

State of New York. One of these gentlemen, Mr. Timothy T. Kissam, describes Bellfounder as follows:

Imported Bellfounder had a small head and ears; full, prominent eyes, and wide apart; neck medium length, set well up from the withers; shoulders deep and oblique; deep girth and full chested; fore legs well apart (not wide); short back, round ribbed, and very broad on the loin; hips wide and well gathered in; long, full quarters to hocks, and short to fetlocks; limbs strong and well muscled; broad and flat below the knees and hocks; pasterns rather short; concave hoofs and open heels; tail and mane full-haired; had a large star in forehead, with a diamond shape on end of nose or lip; one hind pastern white, and a little white on the opposite fore foot at the heel; (aged) in his teens.

I can present no more satisfactory or authoritative outline than is contained in the following, from one of the best known and prominent breeders and handlers of horses in America, who lives within sight of Washingtonville, Orange county, New York, where Bellfounder was kept part of the time he was hired to Mr. Kissam:

Imported Bellfounder was a blood-bay in color, with a bony, strong head, good eyes and well set; his ears were thick and rather heavy; neck well formed, but short; shoulders thick and very strong; body round, and back very strong, with immensely strong quarters, well let down, and joined to a crooked hind leg and a large bushy tail. In height, he stood about fifteen and a quarter hands. When brought out to exhibit his speed, he seemed full of game and mettle, but very controllable. His knee action was very attractive and high, and when Obed (his groom) would get upon his bare back and give him his head, I remember of but one horse that could approximate to him in speed this way rigged, which was the famous George M. Patchen. Bellfounder was remarkably honest; having seen him exhibited a number of times at full speed, I never saw him leave his feet. Hambletonian's dam was by this great horse, and her speed, at four years old, was very great, seldom equaled, even in these fast times. Her colt, by Abdallah, was the famous Hambletonian—in color he is a dark bay; height, fifteen and a half hands, with rather a coarse head, and ears large and heavy; his eyes are large and very prominent, but mild; neck short, but thin and well formed; shoulders thick and rather low, but very powerful; body round and well formed, back strong and well coupled, hips long but narrow, quarters immense, and the muscle well let down to the hock; hind legs crooked and very clean, broad and strong, forward arm and legs strong, and joined to as good a foot as ever pressed the earth. His tail is high set and heavy, and when led out he carries it low or close to his body. In disposition he is mild, and when started up on a fast gait his action is good, being open-gaited behind, with knee action very like his grandsire, Bellfounder. His late owner, I think, was always proud of his Bellfounder cross, and many good horsemen think him indebted to this cross for his mild and docile qualities. Let this be as it may, the combination certainly produced the most successful stallion of modern times.

ALDEN GOLDSMITH.

These two may be regarded as correct general descriptions, but do not throw certain or particular light on the points that constitute his characteristic or distinguishing physical conformation as a trotter, and to which he owes his trotting qualities.

It will be observed that the first writer speaks of his long, full quarters to hocks, and short to the fetlocks, and that the other gentleman speaks of his immensely strong quarters, well let down, and joined to a crooked hind leg.

These two thus in some respects agree as to some peculiar conformation of the quarters or hind legs, in their own way giving the idea that they were long and of unusual strength. These are about the usual terms in which the best of horsemen refer to such points, yet it will be seen they fall far short of conveying a definite and precise idea concerning one of the important points which constitute the marked peculiarity in the physical conformation of Bellfounder and his descendants. It will be observed that Bellfounder was not a large horse, not as large as the average Messenger by one inch in height, yet from a close study of his descendants and those of other families having crosses of his blood, I am satisfied that he possessed a thigh 24 inches in length, and that he measured 40 inches in the line from his hip to his hock.

It is a phenomenon incident to breeding that certain families are marked by a certain peculiarity of conformation or other trait, and which they transmit to and engraft on all other stocks with which they may be crossed, however much they may yield to the stock thus united with in other matters. In this one matter they assert their individuality. Such is the fact regarding this peculiarity of conformation in the Bellfounder family, and it is probable that it was one that pertained to Sampson and to all the other road or trotting horses of Norfolk. While they were evidently made of crosses from various bloods, they all seemed to agree in the one common trait for which they were chosen and bred: in their adaptation to go in harness or under the saddle, at the trotting gait. This being a common and established peculiarity or trait, they would transmit that with more certainty and uniformity than other features in which they had not so universally agreed. I have shown that the Messenger families universally were found to show a measure of 23 and 39, while Hambletonian, with one-quarter of his composition that of Bellfounder, was 24 and 41, and the Clay family—which, as we shall see before the conclusion of this chapter, is nothing but a Messenger family coming through a

source that gave them a heavy quarter behind, and originally a longer one—still adhered to the same length of limb of 23 and 39, except in the case of Sayer's Harry Clay, whose dam was a daughter of Bellfounder, and they possess the peculiarity referred to in greater degree than any known family, being 24 and 40 to 41 inches, and in one or two instances where that stock again crossed with Hambletonian the reinforcement of the blood thus derived is shown in a line of 42 inches from hip to hock, in a horse fifteen hands and three inches high.

It was this feature that gave type and character to Bellfounder as a trotter. He was in reality a natural trotter. In him the nervous or mental instincts of the trotter were displayed by a horse that had also the physical conformation that adapted him to the trotting gait. In his front legs, and in other matters of physical conformation, he did not differ materially from the Messenger family. That they had many traits in common is clearly proven in a close study of the descendants of each. That Bellfounder was possessed of the blood of Sampson and Useful Cub is strongly indicated in the physical and mental traits of the two families as they united on this side of the Atlantic. That they also brought along their points of dissimilarity, is also apparent in the great lack of uniformity in the results of interbreeding the two elements in this country. The blood of Sampson in Messenger had come through a long channel of the purest Arab blood. It had so far assimilated with it as to completely embody its trotting instinct in the positive and unyielding nature of that blood. Such a blood would be potential and prevailing as a sire, but would not in a female yield to the less impressive qualities of a mixed or cross-bred sire. It might be greatly controlled and modified in certain matters of form and physique, but in the essential spirit and character of the animal, the sire deeply bred in the pure blood of the Arab would not yield to the spirit and mental traits of the lower and mixed-bred sire. Bellfounder as a trotter was greater than all the Messengers, but his blood was not equal to theirs in purity or positive quality. Bellfounder as a sire was not so impressive in the essential matter of trotting quality as he was in physical conformation and external traits. His blood as a sire could not prevail as against the superior and stronger currents flowing from Messenger, but when that blood was presented in the female and the Messenger of high trotting quality as the sire, the success is marked beyond anything that the history of breeding in this country has ever displayed. From one daughter of Bellfounder Abdallah produced Hambletonian, and from another, Sir Walter, his fastest trotter;

from daughters of Sayer's Harry Clay and others of Bellfounder blood, and the in-bred Messenger sire, came Bodine, St. Julian, Gazelle, Prospero, Reform, Dame Trot, Hogarth, Elaine, and King Philip.

Lady Alport by Mambrino, dam by Tippoo Saib, second dam by Messenger, while too closely in-bred, was yet regarded as a superior mare. She had two sons by Bellfounder, one of which was his best son probably—Brown's or Ohio Bellfounder—and while as to form he was mainly Bellfounder, he was not a trotter of distinction, and has scarcely left a trace of his blood in the trotting stock of this country. And as was this so were all the sons of Bellfounder—their success was not sufficient to have perpetuated his name. That a grandson of the Norfolk trotter produced Conqueror, the hundred-mile trotter, does not detract from the correctness of the view here expressed, since the dam of that great performer was a daughter of Bellfounder himself.

As before expressed, Bellfounder was not as a sire so impressive as to overcome certain traits of the Messenger blood, while in other respects he showed his superiority in marked degree. In all that pertained to color, form and external marks he seemed to stamp his image on his produce with wonderful force and uniformity—but in the essential and controlling instincts of the trotter, except a small but brilliant list, he failed. He received mares that were of the richest Messenger blood—but the produce, except the Charles Kent mare and Conqueror, as trotters, were not equal to either of the parents. They each seemed to counteract the trotting qualities of the other, a thing that often occurs in breeding.

While Bellfounder and his sons were not impressive sires in regard to this matter of trotting quality, it must also be conceded that his grandson Hambletonian, great stallion as he was, was quite variable, and failed in more cases than he succeeded. His uncertainty originated in the uncertain and unknown elements that united in Bellfounder. The latter was made up of diverse elements, having something kindred to the Messenger but much that was entirely foreign, and the blood sometimes worked in one direction and often in another or many, as is the case when there is a conflict between blood forces in breeding from cross-bred animals. Although a distant remove from the Suffolk Punch cart horse he most likely had an inheritance from that quality which now and then asserted itself. It must be conceded that apparent traces of this cross are frequently discernible in the descendants of Hambletonian. Breeding is a crucible in which the alloy often comes out in one place and the pure gold in another, while they sometimes blend.

The loud clamor of many of those who speak disparagingly of Bellfounder is, that he had no success outside of the Messenger blood. It may be said, in reply, that the Messenger blood found its chief and most brilliant success in its union with that of Bellfounder. The real fact is, that the Bellfounder blood constituted the one needful outcross for the Messenger.

This latter blood, as I have shown, was displaying tendencies that had to be counteracted. The long in-breeding in the Arab blood was fast operating on the Messenger blood to the impairing of the trotting leverage in the physical conformation, if not on the trotting instincts in the nerve organism. It was necessary to counteract this, and the Bellfounder cross met the demand squarely. The blood was so far familiar that it did not operate wholly as a foreign or violent outcross, and the new physical elements furnished an element of invigoration which called out all the energies and vitality of the blood of Messenger. The result is known and seen every day in the renown of our Hambletonian family, which as a trotting family stands in advance of all others.

In the former part of this chapter, in considering the qualities of Messenger, we have seen that while he possessed trotting quality in an eminent degree, that was not his controlling or paramount quality, and that the result of close in-breeding in his blood caused a retrograde of trotting inclination.

A study of Bellfounder establishes the view that his blood had two aspects: first, that he was not a horse that had long been bred in the same line of blood, that he was made up of recent unions of diverse elements, and hence was not in the matter of his trotting quality an impressive sire; but secondly, that his prevailing and dominant quality was that of a trotter. Hence it is clear in point of philosophy, and experience tends to confirm the view, that in-breeding in his blood, so far as it can be done with reference to vigor and inherent soundness, will and does tend to increase and intensify the trotting quality. Such, I have no doubt, is the fact; and while one breeder said to me, that in his breeding efforts he should aim to get away from this blood as far as possible, I will advise, as I did in the first published series of these chapters, that the breeder get as close to it and as often as can be done with proper reference to health and vigor of the animals to be bred.

There are two aspects in which in-breeding in the Bellfounder blood will improve the American trotter of Messenger descent, namely, in

the matter of leverage; it will lengthen out his reach or distance of stroke in his rear propellers, and it will increase his brain or mental inclination toward the trotting gait.

In the chapter on Hambletonian, and in that part of Chapter XIX devoted to Sayer's Harry Clay, I illustrate this proposition fully. In those chapters, and in the other frequent references I shall make to this peculiarity, as evidenced in these two descendants of Bellfounder, it will be made clear, that by in-breeding in the Bellfounder blood, we increase the peculiar manifestations by which it marked the Hambletonian family, both in the matter of physical conformation, and in the nerve or mental impulses of the trotting horse. And thus I believe the trotting horse of this country is yet to gain additional speed from the blood of the Norfolk trotter. I estimate that his value to the American roadster and trotting horse in the first generation after the union was made available, was equivalent to an advance of ten seconds in speed.

In conclusion I may say, in regard to the popular estimate of the value of Bellfounder, to the American trotter, that while it is true that he has been in great part ignored and lightly esteemed in general, the fact that the Messenger horse has been advanced in speed an average of ten seconds or more by union with his blood; that the famed Abdallah blood has nowhere, outside of the family of Hambletonian, attained the speed or availability as a trotting factor which it has reached in that union; that the famed American Star cross, which for a time was a star of the first magnitude, has already begun to dim in lustre; and that the Duroc cross, with all its richness and exuberance as an ingredient in the trotter, fails to show its inherent and independent superiority, there is at this late day a returning tide of sentiment in favor of the value of Bellfounder to our American roadster.

The two branches of that blood in the Hambletonians and the Sayer's Harry Clays, and the occasional lines, though dim and feeble, tracing to Ohio Bellfounder and to Latourettes or Trempses Bellfounder, or other almost forgotten branches, now and then come out as in the trotter Conqueror, an in-bred Bellfounder, that made his one hundred miles in 8 hours, 55 minutes and 53 seconds; Sir Walter, the fastest son of Abdallah, and whose dam was by Bellfounder, that trotted a mile by the record in 2:27; the dam and grandam of King Philip, the young son of Jay Gould, that attained a record of 2:21 at five years of age; the Cromwell filly, in Kentucky, referred to in the chapter on Almont—all combine to bring again the opinion, that was at

one day held by the friends of Bellfounder, that he was in reality the best and truest representative and embodiment of perfect trotting quality ever seen on our continent. The late recurrence to his blood in the opportunities now being presented to reunite different and long separated lines from him, may yet result in giving it a value in popular estimation far above any that it has heretofore enjoyed.

After leaving Boston, Bellfounder was kept on Long Island and in Orange and Dutchess counties the remainder of his life, and died on Long Island in 1843, having served in this country for about twenty years—the precise period that Messenger survived after his importation.

A further consideration of the qualities of Bellfounder is reserved for the chapter on Hambletonian, and the chapter on Sayer's Harry Clay.

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#### DUROC.

IN tracing the origin and blood elements that enter into our American roadsters, the Duroc cross must not be omitted. While it is not certain—hardly probable—that he had any trotting quality in himself, he seemed to have had that other qualification, a certain conformation that adapted itself to the trotting gait, and when united with the blood of Messenger the union seemed to display trotting quality of the highest order. Its relations to the Messenger blood were somewhat similar to that sustained by the Bellfounder cross; and the results, while dissimilar, were entirely analogous. It gave to the Messenger a type and manner of going marked and distinctive, but totally different from that exhibited in the union with the Bellfounder.

Duroc was a large and powerful chestnut, fifteen hands three inches high, of large bone, very muscular, and possessed of the spirit, courage and invincible resolution of a great race-horse. He was bred by Wade Mosby, Esq., of Powhattan county, Virginia, and was foaled June 4, 1806, two years before the death of Messenger. His sire was imported Diomed, a small chestnut horse that was winner of the first Derby in England, and was imported when twenty-two years old, and died at the age of thirty-one, leaving a numerous and distinguished progeny, his blood entering into nearly every great family of race-horses in America. From his sire Duroc derived serious and deeply-seated blood defects and infirmities, besides those traits from which



his chief excellence has been drawn; nevertheless, his spirit and high qualities of nerve and resolution were found in all the family of Diomed.

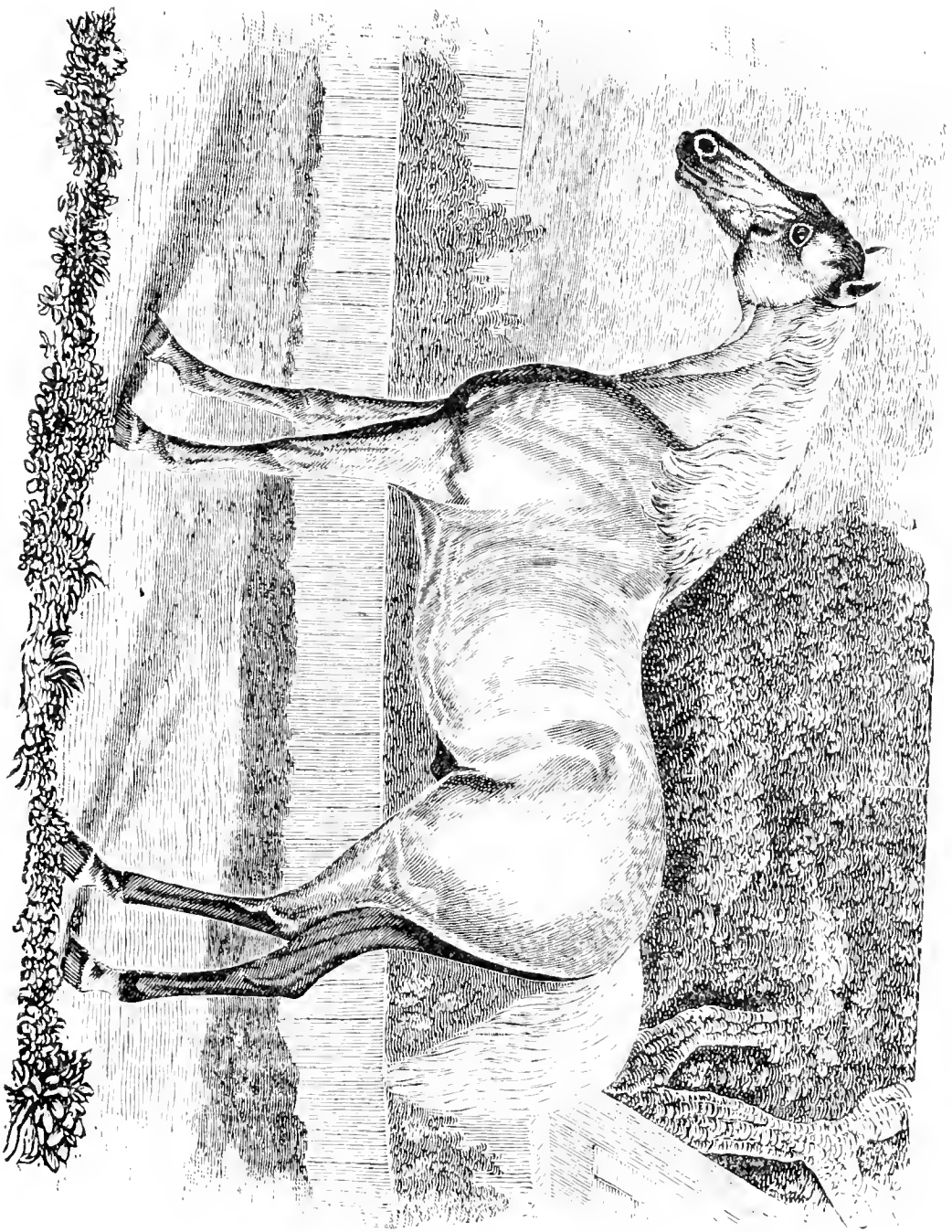
His dam was Amanda, by Grey Diomed—a Diomed only in name—son of imported Medley; and from this line came the qualities that give Duroc a place and a name in the trotting families of America. Medley was a grey, was foaled in 1776, and was by Gimcrack, a grey horse, fourteen hands and one-quarter of an inch high—about the standard height of the race-horse in those days—but one of the best horses England has produced. He is described as a compact, stout horse, with powerful quarters, and hock well let down—and this is the point or fact which gives Gimcrack an historical importance in our American trotting horse—a germ here planted which reappears in force and controlling character in the Medleys, the Duroc-Messengers, the Mambrino Chiefs, Royal Georges, Rhode Island and Golddust.

Amanda, the dam of Duroc, was a chestnut, and one of the best mares of her day. She passed a career of distinction on the turf, produced only this one foal, and died the year following from an injury.

From Gimcrack and Medley came the germ of the qualities that have made the Duroc blood a valuable factor in the trotting families. They were stout and large boned, and possessed a long and powerful thigh and gaskin—a feature in which Duroc excelled, and which marks his descendants in a pre-eminent degree. For be it understood that certain features or peculiarities once engrafted, from whatever source they come, often grow until they assume proportions that constitute the characteristic badges of families and races.

Such are the distinctive features of the descendants of Duroc—a large and powerful frame, wide across the hips, a long and powerful thigh, and gaskin well let down in the hock; this last feature, of necessity, resulting in a rather crooked hind leg, often very crooked. This latter peculiarity seems to have in itself some peculiar adaptation to the trotting gait. It causes the animal to go wide apart behind, gives him a powerful leverage and one of increased length, and is always attended by the open, loose, even straddling gait—the sure indicator of trotting adaptation.

American Eclipse was a son of Duroc. A correspondent in *Colden's Magazine*, in 1833, describing Eclipse, speaks of his "*long and strong thigh, hock well let down.*" This magazine, in 1834, published a memoir of Eclipse, in which he is described as having



GIMCRACK.



Large thigh bones of *unusual length*, the well-covered hocks particularly long and let down upon the cannon-bone, yet of that form which, while it adds greatly to the power of the lever, is denominated curby, or liable to throw out curbs.

The principal strains of the Duroc blood to be found in this country at this time are found in the members of the American Star family, the descendants of American Eclipse, the descendants of Cock of the Rock, a son of Duroc, out of Romp, by Messenger—a small line—those of Phillips in the family of Abdallah Chief, and those of old Mambrino Chief. I have no doubt the dam of Mambrino Chief was a granddaughter of Duroc, as she was most probably a daughter of the original Messenger Duroc, who was by Duroc from Vincenta, a daughter of Messenger. The descendants of Mambrino Chief have all the characteristics of the Duroc family; they have the big, open gait of that family; they have the outward form and measurement of that family, and they have the coarseness of quality which distinguishes many of the family, and the defective hocks which so conspicuously adorn the descendants of Duroc.

Touching again the subject of measurement, I repeat the remark made before, and yet, perhaps, often to be repeated, that the gait or way of going is governed in most part by a certain conformation of parts, and that those of a certain gait will be found to possess a certain line of measurement of parts in common. It will be found in this respect that all of the Duroc family have the very long thigh bone.

This matter of measurement, about which some people have much to say, yet know as little as they do about horses, never having studied or learned anything about either, has its value here. By the anatomy of the Duroc family are they distinguished, even to remote generations, as I know of no other family on this continent. Duroc had a long thigh, and this thigh he transmitted and yet transmits, even to his remote descendants, unless counteracted by other bloods alike strong and positive in their character. It was not a Diomed characteristic, but it belonged to Duroc. The Diomed family have not generally a thigh over 23 inches in length, but the Duroc family in all its remote branches, displays one of 24 inches and upward. Since I called attention to this particular, one learned writer asks if I ever measured the thigh of Duroc. I need only refer again to the accurate and careful author from whom I quoted, as my authority on this point, and surely such testimony is far more weighty and far more logical than the question put by that gentleman.

The American Star family, with their single cross of Duroc, and only 15 hands 2 inches in height, have a thigh 24 inches in length—the larger ones, Bolton and Socrates, have each one  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches; while Smuggler, a remote descendant of Duroc, can show as fine hindquarter action as any horse in the world, and trot very fast on a 24-inch thigh. It is also seen that the length of the thigh bears some reference to the number of Duroc crosses the animal carries. Thus, Brownwood by Blackwood, dam by McDonald's Mambrino, having two Duroc crosses, has a thigh  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches; the present Messenger Duroc, with his five crosses of Duroc, has one 25 inches, and his son Ellwood, with his ten direct crosses, and not so tall on the rump by two inches, has one also 25 inches; Prospero is also 25 inches.

This feature of the Duroc cross is one that is found with more certainty than any other anatomical characteristic that I know of anywhere. In the Mambrino Chief family, the long thigh is universal, unless controlled by an overpowering concentration of Sir Archy or other racing blood, as in a few instances. Administrator has a thigh  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches; Mambrino Patchen,  $24\frac{1}{2}$ ; Idol, 24; Mambrino Eclipse, 24; Mambrino Star, 24; North Star Mambrino, 24; Woodford Mambrino, 24; Mambrino Gift, 24; Mambrino Kate,  $24\frac{1}{4}$ ; Mambrino Excelsior,  $24\frac{1}{4}$ ; Proctor,  $24\frac{3}{4}$ ; Blackwood and Swigert, each  $24\frac{1}{2}$ . These two latter were from daughters of Mambrino Chief; their sire Norman, descended from Messenger stock, was not so long; he produced Lula and May Queen, mares 15 hands and one inch, and each had a thigh  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches; also Sue Letcher, the dam of Neely's Henry Clay, and she a large mare, has a thigh 23 inches, and all these show that the long thigh came from the Mambrino Chief family. Again, Almont, a horse 15 hands 2 inches, has a thigh  $24\frac{1}{2}$ , and Thorndale, 15 hands 2 inches, has one 24, both from Mambrino Chief dams; and their sire also produced Pacing Abdallah, a horse 15 hands  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, with a thigh  $22\frac{1}{2}$ , and Goldsmith Maid, 15 hands 1 inch, and  $22\frac{3}{4}$ —which also proves the same point. So uniformly does this measurement prevail, that I venture the suggestion that if the dam of Middletown was by American Eclipse, he will display a thigh 24 inches in length. I have not seen the horse and can not, therefore, attest the point. But the measure is an authority on questions of pedigree that is sometimes more authentic than certificates.

We often see the statement that the early Messenger trotters did not trot so wide apart behind as we now frequently observe. The Messenger horse was a horse with a short thigh, and the short-thigh

trotters all trot close: Happy Medium,  $22\frac{1}{2}$ ; Hambletonian Prince, 22; Cuyler, 15 hands 3 inches,  $23\frac{1}{4}$ ; Lakeland Abdallah, 15 hands 2 inches,  $22\frac{1}{2}$ ; Edward Everett, 15 hands  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches,  $22\frac{1}{2}$ ; Geo. Wilkes, 15 hands, 22; Lucy, 15 hands 2 inches, 20; Gen. Knox, 15 hands 2 inches,  $20\frac{1}{2}$ ; Tattler, 15 hands 2 inches,  $22\frac{1}{4}$ ; Orient, 15 hands  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, 23; Hopeful, 15 hands 1 inch,  $21\frac{1}{2}$ ; Gov. Sprague, 15 hands 2 inches,  $23\frac{1}{4}$ . The above list indicates the length of thigh in trotters that have no near Duroc blood.

When the Duroc blood came in, the long thigh widened out the position of the hind legs, and this wide open gait is so attractive to some that it is early seized upon as a sure indication of coming greatness in the trotter. The Star family all show the wide gait, although they possess only one cross of Duroc blood, sandwiched between two and perhaps three crosses of Messenger, and one of Henry, another short-measure horse. It must be borne in mind, however, that while the form and peculiarities which give type to the Star gait came from the Duroc cross mainly, that gait is not the Duroc-Messenger gait. The Henry cross exerted a controlling influence over the conformation of the American Star family, and greatly modified the Duroc gait. But the gait of Mambrino chief and all his family, including the Almonts, is essentially Duroc-Messenger, and is one that is recognizable anywhere. It is not the gait of the Mambrino or the Mambrino Paymaster family. Mambrino produced Almack, and he, in turn, the Champion family; and the gaits of all these bear a close resemblance to the elastic, propelling, rear-reaching gait of the Abdallahs, but totally unlike the Duroc-Messenger element. This cross had such long thigh, and such long bone from stifle to the whirlbone joint, and at the same time lacked in the flank room or distance from the stifle to the hip, that the motion of the hind limbs involved such a folding up of these members, with so little room for it, that it gave the horse a sprawling motion—spreading out at the stifle—and a wobbling style about the hindquarters wholly unlike the even, elastic tread of the Abdallah and Champion families. Any one who has seen a three-year-old Almont and one of the same age by the present Messenger Duroc turned loose in a lot, can not have failed to recognize the great similarity, I may say identity, of their gaits—they lift the hocks high and are showy fellows. The Blackwoods train in the same school; and this gait prevails in all the Mambrino Chief family.

The special adaptation of this Duroc conformation was calculated to make it specially advantageous to cross with the Messenger family,

in which we have seen the tendency was toward a short leverage, and nothing seems to detract from the good results from such a cross except the blood defects inherited from Diomed, which will be noticed further along.

The blood of Duroc, while it was tainted and was infectious in its tendency, and was certainly injurious if intensified by close and continued in-breeding, was in other respects one of great value. When it was properly supported and renovated by judicious outcrosses, it was not necessarily an unsound or contaminating agency, and, as allied with the blood of Messenger, it was an important trotting element. The blood of imported Messenger was crossed with that of several other thoroughbreds and part-bred animals, notably with that of Trustee and Expedition, both imported horses, and with other sons of Diomed. That of Duroc was also crossed with the blood of other thoroughbred and trotting strains; but nowhere was there a union of any of these elements that produced a trotting type so marked and lasting in its peculiarities as that of Duroc and Messenger. I have before stated clearly that I do not believe there was one particle of trotting tendency in the blood of any of the Diomed family; and I am confirmed in this opinion by the observation of those who lived in the day of his sons and early descendants. Certainly I can not credit Duroc with any such tendency, or with any other element of a trotter than a conformation of thigh and hindquarter peculiar to himself, and which had a tendency to develop and increase in his descendants, especially when in-bred, that greatly adapted them to the trotting gait; but I call the attention of those who deny the magical trotting qualities of the Messenger blood to the fact, that while Duroc was thus lacking in trotting tendencies in himself, his blood, in union with that of imported Messenger, *constituted royal trotting blood of the highest quality* we have ever seen on this continent. And it was so marked and noted in its own type and character as to stand by itself and give form and character to all the subsequent elements into which it has entered.

Every descendant of Seely's American Star, of Mambrino Chief and Almont or Thorndale, attests in his way of going, his wide open gait, and the peculiar action of the thigh and quarters, the presence of the Duroc-Messenger union. Messenger Duroc was by Duroc, from a daughter of Messenger, and was a thoroughbred. The first American Star was similarly bred, according to all traces that have come down to us. And let me ask, where have such trotting elements been found in or exhibited by any other two thoroughbred horses this country

has ever produced? Both of these were trotters, and from the last one and a mare by Henry, the little grandson of Diomed and out of another daughter of Messenger, came the American Star, whose fame as a trotter and the sire of trotters and the dams of trotters, forms one of the brightest pages of our trotting history. It is clear this last horse received nothing but his defects and imperfections from Henry; his greatness as a trotter, and the richness of the trotting elements he carried, came from the Duroc-Messenger blood of which he was composed.

The pure and rich qualities of this blood are seen in Volunteer and in all his descendants. Its intensified trotting quality is seen in the American Star family, but tainted and greatly corrupted by the infirmities incident to in-breeding the Duroc and Henry blood; and in the Mambrino Chief family its royal trotting quality, greatly reinforced by the union of the Messenger strains coming through Mambrino Paymaster, found their richest field of development and display, marred, however, by the fact that the low-bred ancestry of the dam of Mambrino Chief also furnished a suitable field in which to manifest and develop the innate and deep-seated taint of the Duroc blood. It is thus that the high and the low are compelled to run in the same channels, but the wise breeder will be careful which element he will reinforce.

The great and serious defect of Duroc, and the great obstacle in the way of a free use of his blood in our trotting stock, lay in his innate tendency to curbs, spavins and ringbones—coming from an infirmity of blood inherited from Diomed. The Diomed family have been generally noted for infirm legs. Whyte, the historian of the English turf, says that the racing career of Diomed ended with his going lame. His grandson Henry, the distinguished competitor of American Eclipse, finished his racing history in the same way, and shaky legs have marked his descendants in special degree ever since, even when reinforced by the pure blood of old Messenger.

An own brother of the great Eclipse was ringboned, and the testimony of Mr. Daniel T. Cock, son of the former owner of Duroc, was, that the colts of that horse "showed a decided tendency to spavins, curbs and ringbones," and for that reason his father sold him. He and his son Eclipse are referred to by Mr. Kissam, a well-informed gentleman of that day, thoroughly identified with the horse interests of the vicinity of New York and Long Island, in the following terms:



American Eclipse was not a trotter, nor ever got a trotter, I believe, or scarcely a good roadster. With all his fame, he was deficient in his hocks, and I think was fired to prevent or cure a curb. Mr. Colden, the most enthusiastic and profuse writer on the horse at that day, stated that this deficiency and tendency of his get to curb, for a time operated greatly against him in the stud. Duroc, his sire, was spavined, was unpopular on Long Island as a road horse, and got few that were good roadsters. It has been claimed by some writers that his get were inclined to ringbone.

A monthly, which is the especial organ of the Duroc blood, (my own exposure of its defective tendencies having rendered an organ necessary), admits that—

There is no use in glossing over the fact that this tendency to unsoundness or malformation of the limbs was in the Diomed blood, and whenever we meet with a strong concentration of that blood, till this day we are apt to see this tendency manifesting itself.

The same authority in the interest of the establishment, where ten close and straight crosses of this blood are presented in one animal, however, suggests that as a stallion grows older he is less likely to transmit these defects that so greatly detract from the value of his stock while young. This is a sort of philosophy which might also suggest that the valuable qualities, the strong trotting instincts, would also grow feeble with age, if the animal possessed such a composition of fibre and sinew as to render constant training and use impracticable.

These defects come from such a composition of blood—fibre, sinew or muscle, or wherever it may reside—as to cause inflammation to result from friction or use, such as creates an inability in the system to absorb its synovial and other secretions, the production of which is stimulated and increased by friction and use. The crowning excellence of the Messenger blood lay in its ability to withstand the wear and tear—the friction of use, and absorb all the secretions without the resulting inflammations which in other less healthy systems were productive of swellings and unsound accretions—lasting and injurious disabilities. His blood reveled not in idleness—age added nothing to its purity, and brought no trace of infirmity. But the blood of Diomed was of an opposite character—disuse and inaction suited it best.

But in the face of this great and formidable obstacle the blood of Duroc is an important element in our American trotter. It must be used with intelligence and a due regard to its baneful influence if bred closely; and such families must be avoided as show a tendency

toward its more infirm manifestations. Many display only its excellences—these I commend in the highest degree; but I can not forbear to warn against crossing in those families where the tendency toward defects is its chief manifestation.

I may add, that from daughters or granddaughters of Messenger, Duroc produced Garland the dam of Post Boy, Cock of the Rock, Messenger Duroc, the first American Star—as is most probable, American Eclipse, Blueher, Wellington, Shakespeare, besides many others that enter into the pedigree of our trotting families.

I may also add, that the Duroc-Messenger blood possessed this other valuable quality of acting in harmony with almost any other trotting elements. It had no alloy or base metal that stood in the way of the readiest and most harmonious fusion with the best bloods of our trotting families. The Bellfounder in union with the Messenger blood was not so certain an element. While it has shown its best results on the dam's side of the trotter, in its earliest stages it has operated best in connection with the Duroc blood when the latter was in the composition of the dam. As the interbreeding of these families advances, these crosses will become so remote in their unions that the difference in this respect will diminish, but, as before, the preference for the blood of the Messenger on the side of the sire will still be manifest, and the more remote and perfectly interwoven the Duroc element is found, will it also be seen to exhibit its greatest excellences. Moreover, like many other of our primitive sources of trotting excellence, its best qualities will continue to appear further along as we advance in crossing it with our roadster elements; when its original Diomed or Arab traits are all eliminated, and nothing but trotting quality is left, it will be found to show its most valuable character as a factor in the breeding of trotters. Such has been the case with the blood of Messenger and of Bellfounder—and a similar law prevails in relation to many others.

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#### ST. LAWRENCE.

THIS was a horse of great merit, and a considerable share of good blood, but it is impossible at this day to determine exactly what he was in matter of blood composition. He was bred in Canada—most likely in that part near Montreal, but this is by no means certain. He was brought from Montreal, or in the vicinity thereof, by Mr. W.

Prendergast, and sold to Joseph Hall, of Rochester, New York. He was foaled about 1841, and was seven years old when he came to the State of New York. He became somewhat distinguished on the trotting turf, and was purchased by Mr. D. A. January, of St. Louis, Missouri, and was kept there from 1853 until 1857, when he was re-sold and removed to Rochester, and from thence to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he died in 1858.

He was a bay horse, about fifteen and a half hands high, and left numerous descendants for the short time he was in the States, his evident good blood and superior ability as a trotter making him very popular. He stood for two seasons at St. Louis at \$200—at that time the largest price asked for the services of any trotting stallion in the United States.

All of his descendants are marked by a peculiarity of gait that is precisely like that of the original St. Lawrence. They gently sway their hindquarters from side to side as they advance successively each hind foot. They do not lift the hock high, but trail the hind foot out far behind them, having a very long reach from hip to hock, and a most superb thigh and gaskin—one of the largest and strongest ever seen on a trotter. They have a hock that is perfection in itself. No trotter surpasses them in this part of their conformation. Their front conformation is as perfect as that behind. They lift the feet fairly, bend the knees slightly, and trot with a rolling but far-reaching, and never with a hard-pounding or violent action, that is indicative of great power and ease. They trot so evenly front and rear, and with so much power, that, whether coming toward you or going from you, they seem like the even and steady rolling of a great wheel; their force and momentum is great beyond description. It is a gait with which I am quite familiar, having a first-class opportunity of studying it in my own stallion, Argonaut, whose dam was by Toronto, a son of St. Lawrence. A gentleman who was a great admirer of St. Lawrence, and who is a horseman of very accurate discernment, says that he sees the St. Lawrence gait in perfection in Argonaut. I may here not inappropriately say that, without any regular or professional training, he is a stallion that could at five years of age trot a mile in 2:30.

The form and gait of the family have been everywhere highly esteemed.

The editor of the *Trotting Register*, in his first volume, says of old St. Lawrence:

This was doubtless the best Canadian ever brought to the States. He was a trotter and left some trotters; but nearly or perhaps quite all of these that afterward distinguished themselves on the trotting course had some infusion of Messenger blood through their dams. The blood of the original horse of this name was unknown, but whatever it was it pushed him along and kept him going at a pace and for a distance that his conformation did not seem to warrant. Some of the trotters of the present day possess a moiety of his blood, but he failed to establish a family that might be designated as trotters.

I may say that no horse coming to this country as recently as 1848 would be likely to produce many trotters that did not in some way or other have lines of the blood of Messenger in the pedigree of their dams; nor would any horse, however great his merit, be likely in our day to establish a separate family, wholly independent of other lines of trotting blood.

The horse that comes before the public at this time having a conformation in any way more suited to the trotting gait, and adapted in any degree as an outcross to improve the Messenger family and add to their celebrity, certainly possesses great value. This was done by both Bellfounder and Duroc, and the St. Lawrence conformation and way of going is one better calculated to improve the Hambletonian and Duroc-Messenger gaits, than any with which I am acquainted. Besides, the great ability of that horse as a trotter showed that it was no inferior element to be introduced into the best of trotting families. H. W. Herbert regarded him as a Canadian, and gives his picture in his work, as a sample of the Canadian horse in his highest state of perfection. It is not improbable that he had some elements of the original Andalusian blood, from which the pure Canadian horse sprang. This was the origin of that stock, and many representatives of the blood have shown strong traces of the original Barb elements, from which the Andalusian families descended. The rigors of a severe climate and hard usage have left their impress on the stock, but they yet retain many elements that point to their original superiority, which has not entirely been effaced. Mr. Herbert in this connection makes an observation worth repeating. Of the Canadian, he says:

He is said, although small himself in stature, to have the unusual quality of breeding up in size, with larger and loftier mares than himself, and to give the foals his own vigor, pluck and iron constitution, with the frame and general aspect of their dams. This, by the way, appears to be a characteristic of the Barb blood above all others, and is a strong corroboration of the legend which attributes to him an early Andalusian strain.

St. Lawrence made his first record at Montreal, in 1848, in 2:34½,

on the ice. He trotted and won, against the stallion Rhode Island, a race of six heats. He also trotted and won a race against Cardinal, of two heats for three miles each, winning each heat—record 8:07 $\frac{1}{4}$ , to wagons. The calendar shows that he trotted something like forty heats in races which he won during the period he was on the turf. This does not include the heats in races which he lost—if there were any such. He has one son of the same name that has a record of 2:32. The grandam of Mambrino Gift was by one of his sons, and it is generally regarded that St. Lawrence mares—one of his daughters or those of his blood—are of the best of brood mares. They seem to produce trotters with a degree of certainty that is truly worthy of consideration.

The fact has become so clear that in some parts of our country the Messenger blood has been in-bred too closely, and the need of a suitable outcross of high trotting quality having become apparent in many instances, such a blood as that of St. Lawrence affords for all such, one of the most valuable strains with which to interbreed. Many very valuable mares now exist, that are so closely and strongly in-bred in the Messenger blood, that their value as breeding stock mainly depends on the obtaining of a suitable outcross to invigorate the blood, and maintain the trotting excellence for which it has been noted. For all such, the male descendants of St. Lawrence will afford the desired cross, and the union will in all probability result, as did that of Bellfounder in the Hambletonian, in the further advancement of the American trotter.

#### OTHER SOURCES OF TROTTING BLOOD.

It has been supposed that the Bashaw family, from whence the large and respectable family of Clays have descended, was an original source of trotting blood. Their claims to such distinction will be considered in the chapter on Bashaws and Clays.

The now very large and popular family descended from Pilot, the Canadian pacer, will also receive full and separate consideration in the chapter devoted to them and the other Canadians worthy of notice, in connection with our roadster families.

The Morgan family, including all descendants in the male line of Justin Morgan, however they may have descended, on the dam's side, will also receive separate consideration in a subsequent chapter.

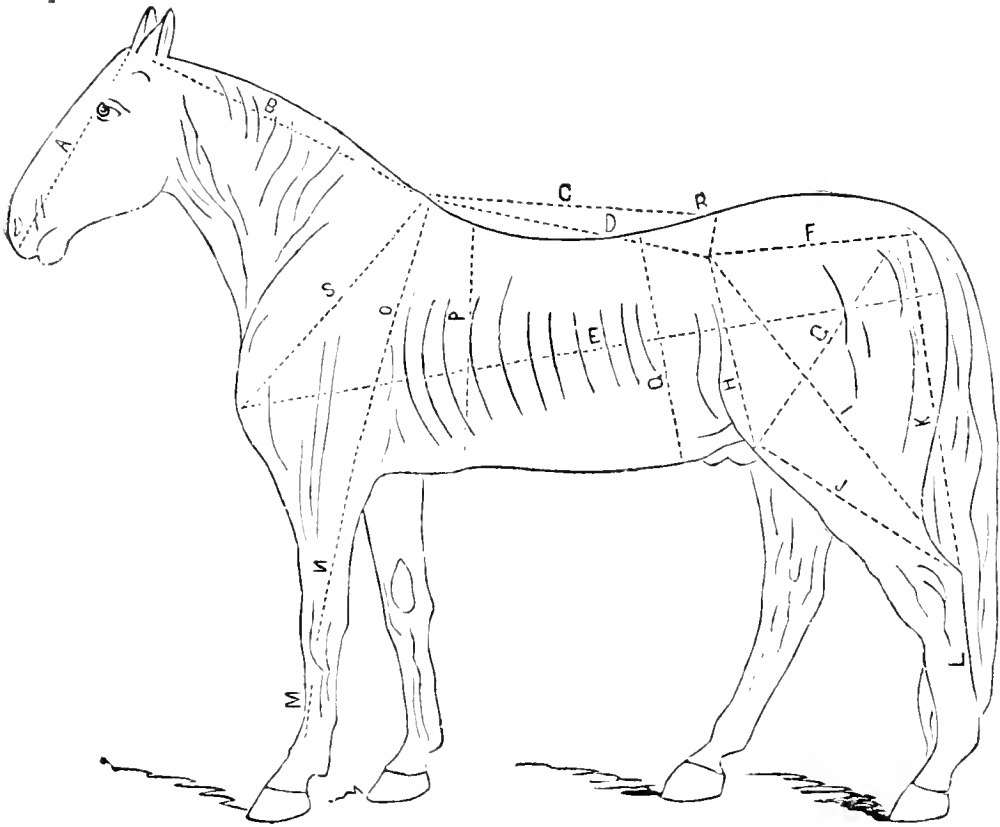
## CHAPTER VI.

### HAMBLETONIAN.

By right of acknowledged pre-eminence, Hambletonian claims our consideration as the first on the list of great stallions. He was foaled on the 5th of May, 1849, at Sugar Loaf, Orange county, New York, and is now [March 1st, 1876] nearing the day when he shall have attained the full age of twenty-seven years. With proper care and treatment he may survive several years longer, but his fame, and the renown of his family, will live in the breeding annals of this country for many generations yet to come. Having been employed in service to an extent greater, perhaps, than any stallion ever produced, his back has become much swayed, and this has worked a change in his form, constituting a wide departure from the magnificent original. For some months past he has also suffered from the effects of epizootic catarrh, which has operated much to depress the otherwise vigorous health of this most remarkable animal. But in the face of all the assaults of age, and these infirmities, incident to long service, and the inclemency of the season, he stands to-day a splendid exhibition of equine perfection. His coat is, ordinarily, of the brightest bay, his legs black, the black extending above the knees and hocks, with white socks behind (in size precisely alike), and a small, white star in his forehead. His feet are neither small nor large, and as near the right model as I have seen anywhere. His pasterns not long or short, and from the sole of his foot upward he is as near perfection as I have ever known. His ankles and knees are large, and his cannon-bones flat, clean and hard to the touch, fine in texture and smooth on the surface. His hock is the firmest and the cleanest I ever grasped, and the large tendon, extending above, is very large and firm. I have not seen a horse, of any age, whose limbs and joints showed a finer texture or quality—more total absence of that gummy coarseness of cellular tissue which marks some even of the noted stallions of the day—his joints showing that perfect absorption of their synovial fluids,

without which such an advanced age can not be obtained without great infirmity of limbs, and the development of marks and blemishes indicative of the imperfections so common in horses everywhere. There has been no firing nor blistering, and no resort to anything to stimulate the absorption of synovial fluids, his own superior quality of bone, tendon, sinew, muscle, fibre and nerve, having been sufficient to exclude all approach of disease or tendency toward infirmity. He constitutes the best illustration I have ever seen of the highly-bred and finely-textured horse, as contrasted with the coarse-grained, soft, low-bred, beefy-limbed and gummy-jointed plug. His own perfection will be seen to better advantage, and more clearly illustrated, when we come to consider the qualities, high and low, of other stallions, even though some of them be the sons of this royal sire.

Hambletonian has a knee  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches in circumference, a hock  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches; is 15 inches around the smallest part of the limb and back tendon above the hock. From the centre of the hip-joint to the point of the hock he is 41 inches; from point of stifle to point of hock the length of his thigh is 24 inches; from the point of hock to centre of ankle-joint he is 16 inches; from centre of foreankle to centre of knee,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches; from centre of knee to top of forearm joint,  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches. His neck, from the notch in the vertebra on his withers to the extreme poll, is 32 inches, and on the underside his windpipe is only 16 inches, giving him the appearance of a horse with a fine crest, but a very short neck. His shoulders extend forward at the point, very far and very strong and prominent, giving him a square, massive appearance, and one of great power. From hip to hip he is 24 inches, and in his back of medium length, round barrel, and massive, powerful hind-quarters, are found the completion of the powerful outline I have endeavored to portray. His pictures are all utterly inadequate to convey any correct idea of the horse. I present to my readers a cut, or outline, prepared by myself and under my own supervision, which I submit as the only correct outline of the form of Hambletonian that has ever appeared. This I know to be correct in outline, and according to the exact scale represented in the animal himself. The triangle from the centre of hip to the root of the tail, and thence to the stifle and back to the hip, represented by the lines *H*, *G*, *F*, respectively, is as follows: *H*, 19; *G*, 30; *F*, 21. The large muscle of the quarters comes down to within nine inches of the hock, and between the legs behind it is simply immense. The neck is not thick nor heavy, the shoulders, or withers, flat and low, being higher on the rump than



on the withers; but the most notable feature of the latter is the compact mass, or fabric, of bone, tendon and muscle, so closely knit together as to appear as one, and undistinguishable one from the other. His shoulder-blades seem to rise to the top of the withers, but so closely and firmly is the whole mass united as to render it difficult to define the line or border of each, giving him great compactness and strength in that part. His tail sets on very high, and the whirl-bone, so-called, and consequently the buttock, or posterior, stands high and projects backward very prominently. I shall refer to other points, in this description, during the progress of this chapter.

[The above was written and published before the death of Hambletonian, which occurred on the 27th of March, 1876. I prefer repeating it in this place without change.]

Hambletonian was bred by Jonas Seely, and when a foal was sold, with his dam, for the sum of \$125, to William M. Rysdyk, of Orange county, New York; and, having survived his owner, he was held, by direction of the will of Mr. Rysdyk, in possession of the family and the executors until his death. He was by Abdallah, and Abdallah was by Mambrino, son of Messenger; the dam of Abdallah



being the mare Amazonia, of very high breeding and well-developed trotting qualities, and one that gave to her son much of the form and quality for which he and many of his descendants are so much distinguished. The maternal ancestry of Hambletonian were bred and owned by the Seely family for three generations prior to his birth. His dam was by imported Bellfounder; his 2d dam by Hambletonian, son of imported Messenger; and his 3d dam, called Silvertail, has been generally reported to have been by imported Messenger, although I have information, entitled to credit, that she was by a son of imported Messenger, owned by a member of the Seely family, and, I believe, a brother of Mr. Jonas Seely, Sr., who bred Silvertail.

As all information with regard to these animals, now so intimately connected with the fame of Hambletonian, is eagerly sought by all interested readers, I herewith insert part of two letters already given to the public; the first addressed to myself by Dr. Townsend Seely, of Kendall county, Illinois, a man above eighty years of age, of most agreeable address, an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, and held in the highest esteem in the community in which he lived for over thirty years past. At my request he penned, in his own way, the following:

About the year 1800, my father traded with George Deanmand, and got a mare called Jin Black, with large, bald face and two white feet. She was large, with strong, clean limbs. Why father came to get her was, because she was so spirited and balky that Deanmand could not make her work; but father broke her to be kind in every way, but had to get an extra strong set of iron traces (the only ones used at that time) to prevent her breaking them every day, and then had no trouble with her. I have ridden her many a day before oxen, to plow among stumps and stones. From the character of Jin you may infer that Silvertail had a good start on the dam's side. She was sired by Messenger, and when foaled was a light grey—the only grey colt I ever saw foaled. When she shed her coat she was the exact color and marks of her dam, with the exception of a tuft of hair at the root of her tail, which was white—hence her name. One Eye was a foal of Silvertail. She was a bright bay, with a ewe neck, and carried her head very high; was a splendid mare, and at twenty years old would move off with all the vigor of youth. I think her sire was Hambletonian, but the record will inform you. I may say that the whole breed of horses were noted for large, clean limbs and joints, and I am persuaded that none of them ever had spavin or windgalls. Many of the colts of the above-named mares went to New York, for extra prices, for coach and buggy horses; one called Crabstick—so called because he could not be broken to ride, for all my brothers owned him at different times (six of them), but none of them could ride him safely. He was very kind in harness, and so fast that his owner spent a great deal of money to get a mate for him that could trot with him, but did not succeed, as I have been informed.

I do not know that I can give you any more information that would interest you in relation to the origin of the Hambletonian stock. I never saw old Messenger, although I heard much of him from those who knew him well.

Respectfully yours,

T. SEELY.

I also insert a part of a letter, at one time written by the well-known compiler of the *Trotting Register*, as follows:

In the summer of 1807, Mr. John Seely, of Sugar Loaf, Orange county, was down at New York with a drove of cattle. He was riding an eight-year-old brown mare, by old Messenger. This mare had white hairs in her tail, hence he called her Silvertail. His son Jonas, a lad nine or ten years old, was along helping to drive the cattle and see the city. Having disposed of his drove, he was exceedingly anxious to get home, but did not like to leave the lad; so he took him up behind him on old Silvertail, and galloped home that day—seventy-five miles. The date of the circumstance was fixed in the boy's mind by a remarkable eclipse of the sun that day. The old mare frequently carried Mr. Seely alone to Albany—one hundred miles—in a day. Her trotting action was not much developed, but she would gallop all day long. Mr. Seely bred this mare to Hambletonian, the in-bred son of old Messenger, and the produce was a brown filly, rather hard to manage when they came to break her; and one day, in a fight to make her do as they wanted, she got one eye knocked out—hence they called her One Eye.

This mare, One Eye, was bred to imported Bellfounder, and the produce was a handsome dark bay mare that showed a fine step as a trotter; and as that way of going was then becoming fashionable, she was sold to New York for a good price. She eventually passed into the hands of Mr. Charles Kent, and was queen of the road for a number of years.

Meantime, Mr. Seely, Sr., had died, and the present Mr. Seely—the lad of 1807—succeeded to the name and the estate. On a certain occasion he saw the Charles Kent mare, as she was then called. She had been hardly used—one hip knocked down, and dilapidated generally. Knowing the wonderful merit of the family, he bought her again for a trifle, and took her home to breed from. She produced several foals. In 1849 she brought a nice bay colt, by old Abdallah, and in the autumn of that year he sold the old mare, with this colt at her foot, to Wm. M. Rysdyk, for \$125, and that colt is Rysdyk's Hambletonian.

These facts I had from the lips of Mr. Jonas Seely himself, than whom there is no more reliable gentleman in the great State in which he lives.

As it has been a matter of great controversy, on which much has been spoken and written, concerning the relative merit of the two great sires from which Hambletonian came—Abdallah and Bellfounder—I will, of course, be expected to give the question some consideration. I give it as my opinion, in advance, that it is a matter concerning which much error has been taught, and much been said, without any adequate understanding of the subject.

Abdallah, the sire of Hambletonian, was a horse of very remarkable and positive character. He was bred by John Tredwell, on Long Island, and was foaled in the year 1823 according to some accounts, and according to others in the year 1825 or 1826. He died in November, 1854, from neglect and ill-treatment, but for which cause he would probably have survived several years longer. It is asserted by some who knew him well, that he died in 1852, but there is one thing that is noticeable in the history of Abdallah and his dam—no one is able to give any definite information as to dates or origin or history, such as we usually receive in regard to animals that have been regarded as valuable in their day and generation.

This is readily accounted for in this case from the fact that Abdallah was not highly esteemed in his day outside of a small number of persons. He had, in himself, so much that was positively forbidding that he was patronized not so much for what he was as for what they hoped to derive from him—and finally, his chief merit in the estimation of all persons, except perhaps his owners, was founded in the high qualities of his produce. I say, except his owners, and there is much in the history of the late years of the horse and the ill-treatment he received to show that even his owners esteemed him more hateful than lovely. But for this fact, his value to the world in his last years might have been doubled.

Mr. Tredwell, the breeder of Abdallah, sold him in April, 1830, to Isaac Snediker, and then gave a letter or statement, among other things saying that he was then seven years old, and that at three years of age he received eight mares, and did no service at four.

It is elsewhere stated that in 1828 and 1829, he stood at the place of his owner on Long Island; in 1830, at Flatbush and Gravesend; in 1831, two miles from Jamaica, Long Island; and that he continued on Long Island and in New Jersey until the fall of 1839, when he was sold to John W. Hunt, of Lexington, Kentucky, for \$1,300; that he was sent there on foot in the spring of 1840, arriving in poor condition, and after making one season there, and not meeting with much favor among the Kentucky breeders, he was resold to parties in New York, returned thither and passed several years on Long Island and in Orange county.

While at Chester, Orange county, he was wintered by standing out in the bleak winds, exposed to the pelting storms of a Northern winter, by the side of a haystack within sight of the place where his renowned son Hambletonian spent his days and died full of years and

crowned with honors. He was not popular in Orange county. His uncouth and rough appearance grew more homely and unattractive with age, and his ferocious temper caused him to be still more forbidding. It is evident that the kind of care he received greatly added to his lack of beauty, and if he secured any patronage it was from the high estimate they placed on his natural trotting power, and the blood of Messenger which he represented in so direct a line, coupled with the well known excellence of his stock.

After running entirely out of popular esteem in Orange county, he returned in 1849 to the city of New York, where he remained at Old Bull's Head, but did nothing. In 1850 he received sixteen mares, and in 1851 he was in Suffolk county on Long Island, but from thenceforth he seemed to be without friends and patronage. He had already survived his own usefulness and outlived popular esteem. He was taken to a remote place on the island and finally given to a farmer on condition that he should deal kindly with him for the remainder of his days. This farmer, concurring in the general estimate that all others seemed to have reached concerning the old horse, then above thirty years of age, sold the king of trotting stallions to a fisherman for thirty-five dollars! Such is greatness! The fisherman, concluding he was about old enough to lay aside regal honors and earn his living like other people and horses, hitched him to his wagon, but the aged monarch, not willing to yield to the degradation, kicked the wagon to pieces, preferring to die of starvation rather than to submit to such menial servitude in the days of his decline. The frightened fisherman, not able to cope with such an imperial temper, left him to his fate, and as the solitary monarch of the sands he surveyed, he died of absolute starvation.

The sire of Abdallah was Mambrino, the rough thoroughbred son of imported Messenger—if he was strictly thoroughbred. His dam was the celebrated mare Amazonia, the most noted trotting or road mare of her day; but of her age or the year of her foaling or purchase, we have no information beyond the fact that she was purchased out of a team in the vicinity of Philadelphia, when four years old, and that about the year 1823 she produced Abdallah. In one place it is stated she was foaled in 1810, but there is no known fact to show that this is within seven years of the date. All of this goes to show plainly enough that neither the value of Abdallah, nor the importance of his dam or her origin, was known or cared for until thirty or forty years after the time when the facts could have been ascertained. In fact,

however much some may have fancied there was inclosed in the skin of Abdallah, his hideous homeliness and more than uncouth temper and disposition, caused all persons, even those who owned and kept him, to turn away from him and all particulars as to his blood, origin or history, with the utmost indifference and neglect. It was considered that the only value in or pertaining to him, was what came from him. The value of that could not easily be overlooked, and was not altogether lost sight of, however little he may have been esteemed. Abdallah was never broken or driven in harness; an attempt was made in that direction when he was four years old, but he had already ascertained his kingly prerogative, and refused to submit to the harness. The effort ended in failure, and from that time it does not seem to have been repeated. Several reasons may be assigned for this. He was recognized from his breeding as a blood horse, and it was not common to work or drive stallions kept for breeding purposes in those days. He was exercised under the saddle, and all concur in speaking of his natural trotting action, and the precision and vigor of his stroke. He never exhibited a speed better than a mile in three minutes, from which we get the idea that after all he was no great trotter.

I have already shown that the Messengers did not appear at first so much as natural trotters as possessing an aptitude or capacity for the trotting gait. This was doubtless the case with Abdallah. Bell-founder was really a natural trotter, but Abdallah had a natural aptitude for the gait—a capacity in that direction, with very powerful instinct or inclination for trotting, inherited from both sire and dam, but more especially from the dam, inasmuch as hers was in a high state of development, and kept in constant exercise. Had Abdallah been driven on the road to the same extent as his dam, he would have made a fast trotter, and such employment would have so far overcome all conflicting inclinations in his blood, as to have greatly enhanced his trotting quality as a sire—great as it was from inheritance; but it had no such augmentation.

Mambrino was a large and very coarse son of Messenger, but possessed of very positive quality. He was not handsome, but was not so homely as Abdallah. He was strong and positive in his qualities of blood, but not so positive as Abdallah. He showed much of the high caste of merit that marked Messenger, but did not exhibit the same high qualities, or impress them on his produce in equal degree with Abdallah. If we could know to positive certainty all of the composi-

tion of Amazonia, his dam, it would explain in great degree, perhaps wholly, where Abdallah obtained such a concentration of Messenger roughness and high quality, surpassing, in the outward display of these traits and his ability to impress the same on his offspring, all of his ancestry. Her origin might shed light on his qualities, and in the absence of such definite knowledge, we must in his qualities seek for some light as to her origin.

A close study of Abdallah must be the first point for consideration, and I here present a descriptive account of him, by one of the ablest writers of his own day; and from the dim light then shed upon the real points of inquiry, we are led to estimate the accuracy and value of most of the descriptive accounts we have of horses even in our own day. While in Kentucky the following account appeared:

The great characteristics of Abdallah are fresh in our memory, but as we hope to see him again in the course of a few weeks we will only undertake to say at present, that he is a rich mahogany bay, and measures about fifteen hands three inches under the standard. He has a star, and very possibly one white foot. He is presumed to be thoroughbred, but the pedigree of his dam is lost. He was bred by the late John Tredwell, Esq., at Salisbury Place, Long Island, and was got by Mambrino (a fine son of the renowned imported Messenger—sire of Eclipse's dam and a host of good ones) out of Mr. Tredwell's celebrated trotting mare Amazonia, by Messenger. He is probably now in his teens. His action is superb; in his three-year-old form Mr. Tredwell considered him equal to a mile inside of three minutes, but as there were no public purses offered at that time for trotting horses, Mr. T. resolved, in consequence of his form and blood, to offer his services to breeders; consequently his abilities have never been tested on the course; in the stud, however, his success has been most remarkable—equal to that of Medoc, Leviathan and Priam, on the race-course. A great number of his get have been trained, and on our trotting courses they nearly equal in number that of all the other sires of trotting horses whatever. Abdallah's great excellence of form consists in this, that he is "a pony built horse" of nearly sixteen hands high. Without an ounce of superfluous flesh, his bone, muscle and strength are placed precisely where each are wanted. Of course his loins are well arched and supported by strong fillets; his quarters are broad and deep, his second thighs running quite down into his gaskins; his thigh and stifle unusually muscular, and his limbs are broad and flat in an eminent degree, the tendons standing out in bold relief; his hocks, like his knees, are very broad, and he stands clear and even on feet of admirable form, jointed to oblique pasterns of the utmost flexibility. His barrel is a model of beauty and strength, being of good length and ribbed out strongly from the elbow to the stifle; he is well let down in the flank also, so as to present no indication of "tuck," or what is sometimes termed "fiddle-flanked;" many horses that have wide hips—an excellent "point" in itself—present such an appearance; no man or horse can

sustain great exertion for any length of time that has not ample space for the carriage of his breakfast. One of Abdallah's best points is his deep and capacious chest, which allows the utmost freedom to his respiratory organs; "through the heart" he will measure with almost any crack on the turf. His forearm and second thigh are made up of long, dry muscle; there is nothing "beefy" about him. His neck and head, though well shaped and properly set on, are rather heavy, like most of the Messenger stock; still his eye denotes good temper, combined with a high degree of intelligence. As it is some time since we have seen Abdallah, and we have no notes whatever to refer to, our correspondent, for the present, will be kind enough, we hope, to take the will for the deed, and accept the above, which we have written from memory—for we never forget a horse that has once engaged our attention—as the best description of him we can give off hand. WM. T. PORTER.

It also gives me great pleasure to insert the following, from the pen of one who knew Abdallah well, and whose capability and faithful accuracy will need no voucher—Mr. Alden Goldsmith, a living horseman of national reputation:

Abdallah was, in color, very dark bay, or bay brown; in height,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  hands; rather leggy, with a slim body. He had a clean, bony head, rather large, but his clear, full eye made it very expressive. It was set on a long and very finely-formed neck, and this fine neck was joined to as high, thin and blood-like looking shoulder as ever was seen on a race-horse. His shoulders were very deep, which gave him great heart room; he was what horsemen call flat-ribbed—hips very long and fair width; the muscles well set down toward the hock, but laid on flat, which, without careful examination, gave him the appearance of being light-quartered. His tail was very thin and light, and high set; when in motion, he carried it high. When led out of his stall, he seemed to be all nerve and energy; his gait was long, low and sweeping; some would say he lacked knee-action, and that his hind legs were too straight to become the sire of great trotters. Although, taking him all in all, he was probably the most remarkable trotting sire ever produced on this continent, the breeders of Orange county rejected him, and he was taken away from the county because he would not pay expenses. The objection to him was, that his get were nervous and lacked "brain balance." I must mention one other feature about him, which was his ear: this was long, very thin and exceedingly sharp—a feature so marked in its shape as to stamp any ear of like form as being an "Abdallah ear."

Mr. Timothy T. Kissam, a nephew of Mr. Tredwell, the breeder of Abdallah, wrote as follows, concerning him:

Abdallah had a long, clean head; ear long and tapering; eyes lively and of medium size; neck light and set low on the withers; up carriage, and when in action, head perpendicular; shoulders upright; deep in girth; full chested; forelegs very wide apart, causing him to stand with his toes in; light bone, especially below the knees and hocks; knees little forward; flat-ribbed and

short in flank; "roached back;" hip and loins medium breadth, peaked from hips to setting on of the tail, which was very thin-haired; long from hip to hock; rather thin quarters, and short to fetlocks, without any marks. At this time about four years old.

I may add, that from various sources I gather the following points descriptive of Abdallah: He was a blood bay, with a glossy skin of the finest texture; a star in his forehead, and left hind foot white above the ankle; his head was large—bony, but thin on the nose—rough in the outline and abounding in expressive angles. His eyes were large and full, standing out like a bright orb; very expressive. He had a long, big and rather sharp ear—one of the most noticeable features about him being his big ears. His shoulders were more sloping than the average Messenger, and the withers were higher, showing that there was a cross toward some other family not far away. His neck was rather on the ewe order, with little or no crest; his throat and windpipe the largest and most expressively blood-like to be seen anywhere. His limbs and feet were of the finest quality; and his barrel was deep at the chest and flat on the sides and ribs, very narrow at the hips and growing more peaked and flat-sided as you passed toward his hind quarters, with straight and flat cat-hammed quarters, not very long, but clean and blood-like to the hock.

Any one who has ever seen the son of Volunteer, called Goldsmith's Abdallah, and observed his clean, flat-sided, but blood-like, form, perfection of limbs and feet, narrowness at the hips and loin, and straight, flat hams and quarters, will have no difficulty in bringing in clear view the form and appearance of Abdallah, with the exception of his more homely outline of head, ear and body, with a tail set on very high, and no more hair than a naked stump with a small and dainty wisp at and near the end. In his later years such a tail was enough to complete his unsightly form, and drive away any one who was not willing to accept for beauty in horseflesh that which was hideously repulsive in the extreme.

His sire was a bay, and Abdallah was a dark bay of very clear caste; but in this matter of color his offspring differed very widely from him and among themselves. Some were bays and browns, but many were chestnuts of every dull shade anywhere to be seen; many light or yellow bays, and many with light colored flanks and bellies. His light colored bays and chestnuts, or buckskin colored produce, generally had a list or stripe extending from the mane to the tail, the entire length of the spine; and this may be regarded as an Abdallah



mark, so common was it in his immediate family. They also followed him with great uniformity in the long ear, the large and prominent and very expressively intelligent eye; in the flatness of the sides, the narrowness at the hips and the cat-hams; the clean and large throttle and windpipe, and often in a most hideous Roman nose, broad on the side, but thin in the front profile. Now and then, however, there was as fine a face as was ever carried by a horse.

These peculiarities of form Abdallah did not derive from his sire, although Mambrino was no real beauty, but had plenty of that coarseness or roughness that indicated the great strength and solidity of material which belonged to the Messenger family.

The essential peculiarities of form in Abdallah came from Amazonia—for the foregoing portraiture was her own in strong degree. She was a Messenger in strong and positive outline, both in form and quality, with the eccentricities or distinctive features above delineated in addition.

Her general make-up, in its bold and coarse outline and intense positiveness, would not in that day be sought for with success outside of the Messenger family. Happily, we are not left to grope in the dark as to locality or channels which clearly indicate her origin.

The account we have of Amazonia was, that she was found by Mr. B. T. Kissam, a wholesale merchant of New York, in a team, near Philadelphia, where Mr. Kissam was on an excursion of pleasure. We are not told whether it was in New Jersey or Pennsylvania. Mr. Kissam drove her for a short time, and sold her to his uncle, Mr. John Tredwell, on Long Island, and he bred her to Mambrino and raised Abdallah. She was four years old when bought by Mr. Kissam. She was a chestnut mare, fifteen hands three inches high; a coarse, flat-sided mare, with a big, rough head, and a long, homely ear and ragged hips.

She is described by those who knew her in the above terms, with the further statement that she was very wide between the eyes; her head very long; that she had a rat tail, and powerful, flat legs, but covered with coarse hair at the fetlock. All accounts agree in saying she was a trotter of the highest type—a road mare of great distinction, many say without an equal.

No question seems to have been raised in any of the journals, or among horsemen, concerning her origin, until about the year 1870—over fifty years after the probable time when she appeared in New York.

In answer to an inquiry made at that time, Mr. Timothy T. Kissam, then an aged man, states in a letter that his brother, B. T. Kissam, obtained her as above stated. He further states that Amazonia was represented to his brother to have been sired by a get of imported Messenger. He does not state who made this representation, or when it was made, leaving it simply a matter of inference. It will be borne in mind that this is merely the recollection of another man, and not the purchaser himself, and after the lapse of half a century, about a matter that did not seem at the time to have been one that concerned anybody very greatly. It is barely sufficient to fix the locality of her origin as toward Philadelphia, and the repute that she was in general terms a Messenger—a general cognomen that was doubtless at that time employed to indicate the family of horses that enjoyed a reputation for road purposes above and beyond all others. There is nothing in this, and I have not anywhere else been able to find anything that would indicate her age or the time. The same remark will apply generally to nearly all the horses that have come to our notice in the same region from which this mare came. There appears to be scarcely any record or cotemporary publication that fixes the exact date of the appearance of any of them, and we are left to the memories of individuals, which we see in the case of Abdallah, the most noted horse of his day, differ several years, both as to the date of his birth and that of his death.

Messenger left many sons and daughters on Long Island and in New Jersey, and so great was the popularity of his stock in New Jersey and the vicinity of Pennsylvania that in later years selections were made on Long Island from his sons that were to be taken to the further side of New Jersey.

In 1834, the Messrs. Downing took from the neighborhood of Trenton, New Jersey, to the State of Kentucky two stallions, one called Grey Messenger, a large grey stallion with an immense ear, which he gave to all his produce, and which has been transmitted to them to this day, as a marked family peculiarity. His pedigree was as follows :

*Grey Messenger* by Dove, 1st dam by Sir Solomon ; 2d dam by Sanspariel ; 3rd dam by imp. Messenger ; Dove, by All-fours, *alias* Saratoga, and he by imported Messenger ; 1st dam by imp. Expedition ; 2d dam by imp. Messenger.

The above pedigree shows that in-breeding in the blood of Messenger was and had been common in New Jersey at and prior to the date above given.

Of Saratoga, I find the following in *Wallace's Monthly*:

Saratoga was a flea-bitten grey, foaled *about* 1805, got by imp. Messenger, dam unknown. It is believed he was bred on Long Island, but the name and residence of his breeder as well as his pedigree on the side of his dam have been lost. He was driven in harness and did service in a number of counties in Pennsylvania, and was sold at auction in Philadelphia in the spring of 1812, to James Dubois, of Salem county, New Jersey. He was a great, strong horse, and was kept to work on the farm of his owner. \* \* \* He was a slashing natural trotter. \* \* \* A number of his progeny were fast trotters. \* \* \* Among the sons of this horse, one called Dove was the most distinguished in the stud.

The editor of the *Monthly* acknowledges himself mainly indebted to Mr. Edward Van Meter, an aged and eminent lawyer of Salem, New Jersey, for most of his information in regard to these families, and has very kindly furnished me the original letters from Mr. Van Meter, for which favor I wish here to make my acknowledgments. Mr. Van Meter speaks generally from an intimate personal knowledge, but the same allowance must be made for probable inaccuracy as to dates, at this remote period. He says:

Saratoga was sire of Charlotte Grey, a filly, ahead of anything in the trotting line in that region. Mr. Dubois also raised a grey colt called Dove, by this Saratoga.

Dove was about fifteen and a half hands high, lengthy, long ears, very coarse and homely, big head, very stout all over, with flat legs. It has been said of him, and I believe truly, that he could pass every horse on a trot, whenever pushed up, that came in contact with him from 1817 until he became injured and unfit for service. He was sold in 1819 to Isaac Elwell, keeper of a hotel near Salem, and by him owned until his death, leaving perhaps fifty to seventy-five foals, the most of them having a striking resemblance to their sire. I had opportunity to know much of Dove's progeny. They were fit for all service, the plow, the team or the road, kind and docile at work, prompt and free drivers, and when pushed for a display of speed, the average of the whole progeny would go away from any horse on a trot, that could not beat 3:30 to a mile. These trotting characteristics of Dove have been transmitted to his descendants through several generations, and now there is much of his progeny in this vicinity, which is recognized as the descendants of *long-eared Dove*.

In another letter, the same gentleman says:

There was never a stallion in the county of Salem so much ridiculed as this stallion Dove in his day. He was the ugliest living stallion. He had a nice mane, good tail set on high, but his general appearance was rough as rough could be. He had raw bones, big head, long ears, legs flat and wide, feet large and flat. \* \* \* And I speak sincerely when I declare that no horse in my

day has left progeny and their descendants so distinctly marked as trotters, as this said long-eared Dove.

It was next to an impossibility to purchase one of them. They remained in families as a sort of heir-loom, passing from father to son.

Mr. Van Meter speaks of having an intimate personal knowledge of the horses of that part of New Jersey, from as early a date as 1808, and the above is certainly a very forcible and well-expressed description of a family that show very strong claims to kinship with the dam of Abdallah.

The evidences in this case as to the origin of Amazonia come very close to fixing the fact with great certainty. We know the exact region where she was produced—and, as educated horsemen, we also know that in all the wide range of American breeding she could have found the traits and qualities she displayed nowhere else. That is one of the certainties of the case. The dates are near enough to make her either a daughter of Saratoga or of Dove. If Saratoga could produce such a horse as Dove, he has in him the best possible certificate that he could also produce such a mare as Amazonia. That she was a daughter of Saratoga is very probable—that she was a daughter of Dove is still more probable. That she also had some crosses of high racing blood, such as that of Sir Solomon or imp. Expedition, is also probable. There was plenty of each in that exact locality at that time. That she possessed a strong concentration of Messenger blood, derived from channels used to road service, where the galloping instincts of the Arab in Messenger had been overcome by the strongly reinforced road instincts of Sampson, is manifest from her own character. It was this which made Abdallah the king of trotting stallions—although he never trotted a race in his life.

It is apparent that Abdallah derived more of his trotting quality from Amazonia than he did from Mambrino. Why should this be, if this quality was the paramount and natural instinct of Messenger and Mambrino? Can the diluted and divided currents, though they be several, have more force and volume than the fountain-head? The real fact is that, although Messenger and Mambrino each possessed trotting instinct in strong degree, such was not their dominant or paramount trait. They had two contending forces in their composition, and when crossed with racing or thoroughbred families, the galloping instinct, by reason of reinforcement, became dominant; but in the case of the part-bred and road stock, use and employment invigorated the trotting quality; and in Dove and Amazonia, so many currents of

this invigorated trotting instinct united—with the opposing force either strongly subdued or entirely eliminated by the other elements with which it had been united and by the use and employment to which it had been subjected, that the dominant and paramount impulses of the horse were those of a trotter. Although Abdallah was not employed or used as a trotter or road horse to any degree that could give him that character, he was the greatest trotting sire of his day, and perhaps the greatest we have ever seen. It was discovered at an early day that his impressiveness in the matter of trotting quality was unlimited.

Having given a full outline of Abdallah, the sire of Hambletonian, I may return to his dam, the daughter of imported Bellfounder. Mr. Jonas Seely, now upward of eighty years of age, has recently given a succinct history of the breeding and ownership of this mare. He says that One Eye, the daughter of Hambletonian, son of Messenger, having been sold to his brother-in-law, Mr. Josiah Jackson, she was taken to Dutchess county, to be bred to Bellfounder. This shows the estimation in which Bellfounder was held in Orange county. That she produced a filly—the mare now under consideration; that this filly was sold by Mr. Jackson, when three years old, for three hundred dollars—a pretty round price in those days for a three-year-old filly; that Peter Seely, the purchaser, sold her to Ebenezer Pray for four hundred dollars; that Mr. Pray sold her to Mr. Chivers, a butcher in New York, for five hundred dollars, and Mr. Chivers sold her to a banker for six hundred dollars; that while owned by the last purchaser named, she was hurt and was lame and unfit for the road; that she was then purchased by Charles Kent, and became thence afterward known as the Charles Kent mare; that Kent bred her to Tom Thumb, and the produce was a filly, which became the dam of Greene's Bashaw. In 1844 Mr. Jonas Seely purchased her from Kent for one hundred and thirty-five dollars—mare and foal; she was then very lame. While in possession of Mr. Seely at this time, she produced three foals—two fillies, and the colt Hambletonian by Abdallah. In the spring of 1849 he sold the mare and her foal to Mr. Rysdyk, to be delivered in the fall.

The prices at which this mare was sold while in condition for use on the road, indicated her great superiority, although she was not kept for racing purposes, and was simply a road mare as was Amazonia. Aside from the blood and inherited qualities of each of these mares, the long and continuous use of each on the road, and the very power-

ful influence each had on their distinguished offspring, are facts that are eminently suggestive to the student in the breeding of trotters.

We are now brought to consider the question of the respective shares or influence each had in the composition of Hambletonian.

Not overlooking the positive caste and strong in-breeding of Abdallah in the blood of Messenger, as already indicated, we must also keep in view the fact that the grandam, One Eye, and the great grandam, Silvertail, were of the same famous and all-prevailing blood—leaving the one cross of the blood of Bellfounder in the dam of Hambletonian to contend with tremendous odds, if there was any conflict in the tendencies or operations of the two blood forces.

That the Kent mare was a trotter, all accounts establish; that she was steady, level and kind, is also true, while the same can not be said of her own dam, One Eye. For the purpose of detracting from the merits of Bellfounder, it has been found convenient to assert that One Eye was a wonderful trotter—one of the greatest mares the country has possessed—that she was a regular Lady Thorn, only lacking the training and development. Such distinctive greatness was not discovered by any of those who owned or knew her in her own day; and while it is undoubtedly true she was a good mare, the discovery of her great qualities as a roadster was reserved for a subsequent generation. The excellence of her daughter, and the greatness of her grandson, brought the fact to light. While the Messengers had ready impulses for trotting, they had a nervous temperament of a high order; and the Bellfounders were as noted for their kindness and docility of temper.

The Bellfounder blood did not impart its trotting quality to all bloods alike. From Lady Alport, by Mambrino, a mare of blood constituents very much like One Eye, two foals came to Bellfounder, both males, neither possessing the trotting quality displayed by the Kent mare. They were not impressive or controlling sires in any great degree. The Kent mare, with her slight cross of Bellfounder blood, produced a son that became the founder of the greatest family of trotting horses we have ever seen, and instead of yielding all to the magical and prepotent influence of Abdallah in the composition of her son, she scarcely left enough resemblance to the sire to found an honest claim to kinship.

The head, which is not Bellfounder, could readily be credited to the Messenger blood in the grandam; while every other important outward or physical characteristic is essentially Bellfounder.

Hambletonian was one inch narrower from hip to hip than the average of his sons, and he had not the same lateral roundness over the hips and hindquarters that would be indicated by the roundness and fullness toward the posterior view and in the quarters. In this respect the influence of Abdallah may have been present, but certainly his growthy buttock, full quarters and immense muscular development down to within nine inches of the hock, especially on the inside of the thighs, came not from Abdallah. His ear was that of Bellfounder, while his eye and head, nose, face, jaw, throttle and windpipe were those of Abdallah. Elsewhere in form he was after the model of Bellfounder, and in temper and disposition he was as kind and gentle as a lamb.

I have referred to the variable color of the produce of Abdallah, and the large number of buckskins or chestnut shades and yellow bays. Hambletonian, while a bright and beautiful bay himself, it is said, never produced a chestnut or sorrel, his produce being bays and browns with great uniformity. Color in Hambletonian was certainly a quality derived from Bellfounder. This matter of color in Hambletonian and his own offspring in large part applies to the produce of his sons. The uniformity of the bay and brown color in the family, even to the third generation, may be regarded as a very striking trait of the race or breed. We have not yet produced a family of horses of more fixed and uniform colors—a very strong testimony to the power of Bellfounder in this one respect, wherever he may have derived the quality himself.

When it is remembered that the blood of Bellfounder in Hambletonian, a grandson, and only possessing, arithmetically, one-quarter of the Bellfounder element, had to contend with that of Abdallah, a son of a thoroughbred and a grandson of Messenger, reinforced by that of the in-bred granddaughter of Messenger—odds most unequal—and yet, in this contest, came out victor, in so much of the outward or apparent physical conformation of the Hambletonian, we are compelled to confess that this blood had qualities of a most positive, obstinate and unyielding character.

These facts would tend to show that the blood of Bellfounder was really more potential than that of Abdallah; and in the composition of Hambletonian it must be admitted that the influence of the Bellfounder element seems to have been dominant. Nevertheless, as a sire, we know that Bellfounder did not generally display more than a fraction of the impressiveness of Abdallah; and that Hambletonian,

as a stallion, was not as universally successful as Abdallah—and the real reason is, that there was one element in the Bellfounder blood that stood in the way, and when that element was present in force, or operative, there was no success. It seemed to be an element that, like the galloping instinct in Messenger, had to be diluted by other crosses, and thus prepared for effective use, and then its trotting force came out in a degree that surpassed all others.

Hambletonian was not a success with Bellfounder mares, and there are but two instances, I believe, in which he displayed signal success with daughters of Sayer's Harry Clay; but when the blood had gone through the necessary preparation of a further remove from the parent stock; when the Suffolk Punch element (if it was that) was rendered a little more soluble in his sons by other crosses, the success comes out in a degree that at present promises to surpass all others. It was the same way with the blood of Messenger. It worked best when it got a little way distant from the fountain-head; and after mixing something else as an alloy, the reunion of the diluted channels surpassed the original and more concentrated currents.

The acknowledged value of the blood of Messenger, and its all-predominating character in every compound of which it forms a part, together with its almost universal prevalence in the American trotter, goes far to induce those who now think favorably of the blood of Bellfounder, as an outcross in Hambletonian, to yet place a relatively low estimate on its power and value, as compared with that of Messenger in the same combination. I quote the following from an esteemed writer:

The reason why Hambletonian is higher bred, in a trotting sense, is not simply that he has a larger percentage of Messenger blood than other stallions, but because he has a larger percentage of the very *choicest* of Messenger blood. To my mind, it has long appeared a demonstrated fact that a strain of Messenger blood *through Abdallah* is worth more, in a trotting combination, than two (or as many more as you like) of an equal number of removes that do not trace through him; in short, that Abdallah, of all the sons and grandsons of Messenger, was by far the greatest—greater than the proud source, Messenger himself—and as much superior to his competitors as his son, Hambletonian, has since been to his. But Abdallah has other sons! Yes, a few were kept entire, but none that were quite so well bred, *in trotting strains* on the dam's side, as Hambletonian, who has a double cross of Messenger from her; and considering the outcross from Bellfounder that intervened between this double cross and the kindred strain through Abdallah, the distribution may be considered as nearly perfect as could be made. There are those who consider that the Bellfounder cross, in the pedigree of Hambletonian, is no



advantage to it; that it was a positive detriment, and that, had a stallion been produced by Abdallah and the grandam of Hambletonian (One Eye) direct, we should have had a superior to Hambletonian. For my own part, while I am a firm advocate of in-breeding, I believe that the outcross was the magic key which unlocked the treasure secured by the multiplied strains from Messenger, and presented them ready for use, to the best advantage, in Hambletonian.

And the same writer, on another occasion, says:

The first fault that seems to be found with Bellfounder is, that in crossing upon the various Messenger branches (which were generally in-bred) he did not wipe out their characteristics and establish his own type in the descending lines. I regard this as a virtue rather than a fault, for the Messenger type was the superior of the two, and a positive element that clashed with its characteristics would have injured the balance of forces. The great positive elements of the Messenger lines are: trotting instinct, *great* nervous force well balanced, and physical soundness. The positive elements of the Bellfounders seem to have been: *ample* nervous force *exceedingly well balanced*, physical soundness, and fixedness of form and color, with much less trotting instinct, though not devoid of it, than the Messengers. The positive elements which have made trotting families in the past, are: trotting instinct (a quality of the temperament which finds expression in trotting action), and nervous force, for the reason that speed at that gait is the *first* element in a trotter, and the one that has heretofore been the most difficult to obtain. Hence, the Messengers overshadow the Bellfounders in proportion as they exceed them in trotting instinct and nervous force. Training, selection and systematic breeding have developed these qualities in many families, and made it less difficult at this day to breed trotting speed than formerly; and although this part of the trotting economy must always rank highest, the future is more likely to give greater scope for obtaining it, with sufficient certainty to warrant some deviation in favor of crosses for the improvement of form, temper, quality, size, and other requisites of a perfect horse. But because he did not establish a family, I do not see that it follows, necessarily, that it was a "cold element," and "positive only in its coarseness," or "the one poor cross we know in Hambletonian." Had form, color, temper, soundness, and I will add *quality*, been as eagerly sought as speed, who will say that Bellfounder would not have established a family, or that he has not left his impress—a gracious one—upon the families that are established?

It is apparent that the writer of the foregoing had not studied the respective bloods of Bellfounder and Messenger in the light afforded by our analysis of the antecedents of which each was composed; although he expresses some evident truths, and what is suggestive of even more. It is not true that Hambletonian was so highly bred in consequence of his possession of so much of the blood, or even of the choicest strains of the blood of Messenger; but it is true that he was

highly bred in consequence of his possession of such strains in union with other elements that counteracted the tendencies in the Messenger blood that were not of a real trotting character, and not only caused it to display its trotting quality in the highest degree, but also added thereto trotting instincts of an order really superior to those of the Messenger blood. A part of these elements are found in Abdallah, and had been derived by him from his dam, but richer still were the qualities derived from Bellfounder.

Why was Abdallah superior to Messenger himself? This is asserted and is true, but the reason is not given by the writer quoted. The reason was that which has been given above—that in Abdallah's dam the blood of Messenger was found in a state eliminated from the tendencies and qualities that interfered with its more perfect trotting qualities, and hence had more trotting force. We have no evidence whatever that such was the case to any great degree with One Eye, the grandam of Hambletonion, but the Kent mare had scarcely any other character than that of a trotter. She was of Bellfounder bone, flesh, blood and nerve. Why he impressed his own character on her so much more positively than he did on the produce of Lady Alport and other high or low-bred mares, we do not know. We can never understand the exact conditions that cause such differences in the character of offspring. It must be admitted that the instances in which Bellfounder left such an impress were not numerous, but such as have come to our notice were striking to a remarkable degree; and further, it must not be overlooked as a fact, that his excellences were best shown, when seen at all, in connection with strong currents of Messenger blood. The son through which the greatest excellences came out, was Trempses Bellfounder, and his dam was a large grey mare, said to be of Messenger blood. He produced Latourettes Bellfounder, the sire of Conqueror, and left some other traces of his blood in other valuable animals. The dam of Conqueror was by Mambrino, and the grandam a reputed daughter of Messenger. Here, again, the idle and foolish claim will again be set up that the merit was due altogether to the daughter of Mambrino.

It might be some answer to inquire why the mare by Mambrino did not produce such a horse as Conqueror from some other union; why Abdallah did not produce Sir Walter, his fastest son, from some other than a daughter of Bellfounder; why he did not give us Hambletonian, the progenitor of a great family of trotters from other than a daughter of Bellfounder, when he had so many rich in Messenger blood to choose from; and further, why the sons of Hambletonian are

now finding their most brilliant successes in the daughters of Harry Clay, whose dam was a daughter of Bellfounder.

These are not accidental coincidences. There must be some reason, sound in principle and philosophy, back of all these facts. There must be some reason also why Bellfounder did not succeed so well with other mares, and a reason also, why Hambletonian did not succeed with mares of Bellfounder blood equally with his sons. There is also a reason why those sons of Hambletonian are most successful where the Bellfounder element is held in a certain ratio of force and prominence, for it is apparent to my mind that the success of the family depends in large degree on the force and operative power or quality of the Bellfounder element.

The writer above quoted, says: "The positive elements of the Messenger lines are: trotting instinct, great nervous force well balanced, and physical soundness." To this I say, the first and third elements were undoubted; the second was only true when the original and native temperament of the Messenger had been toned down by use and employment on the road or the introduction of elements that gave them that quality. They had too much nervous force to be under control—not too much for the demand of great occasions, but more than they could properly balance.

He says Bellfounder had "ample nervous force exceedingly well balanced, physical soundness, and fixedness of form and color, with much less trotting instinct \* \* \* than the Messengers."

As to the first, *ample nervous force*, they had a large share of it, but the perfection of it was that it was *so well balanced*. It was not equal in force to that of the Messengers, it could not with any recent infusion of cold or common blood equal the long line of descent from the pure blood of the Arabs and Barbs that had commingled with that of the sire of Sampson—this sire not a low-bred horse by any means. But the perfection of Bellfounder lay in his perfectly balanced and uncontrollable trotting instinct. He had a great deal of nervous force, but his trotting instinct was simply the whole controlling mental character of the horse. His blood cooled and steadied the hot and intractable temper in Abdallah. The speed and the high quality may have come from Abdallah, but the quiet and level temper—the inclination to the trotting gait as against all others in the face of all disturbing crosses—these came in the largest degree from Bellfounder.

That the two bloods found their chief development and richest displays in union each with the other, is evidence that they had something

akin in their origin, and close study of the two families reveals the fact that in general physical conformation they differ but slightly.

The traces of Suffolk Punch in Bellfounder and Hambletonian are clear, and hard to exclude; and the known fact that in the very county and district of England where Bellfounder was bred, the stock of Sampson had been much prized for road horses; that Useful Cub, the produce of a Suffolk Punch from a granddaughter of Sampson, was a popular trotting stallion and could trot seventeen miles within an hour, and that his repute went in along with that of old Bellfounder, the original, under the then common designation of a NORFOLK TROTTER, —all go to render it quite probable, with strong evidences of its truth, that the dam of the original Bellfounder may have been a daughter of this same Useful Cub. The time and the place and the blood qualities of the descendants of Bellfounder all point to such a conclusion. It is alleged that Bellfounder the original, was a true descendant of the Fireaways, and if by that we learn that he was a lineal descendant on the male side, it leaves it quite probable that his dam was a daughter of Useful Cub. This would comport entirely with the locality, the chronology and the blood traits found in the offspring even to this day. Such evidences must often be considered and in many cases have great weight.

I am doubtless met with the inquiry, whether Hambletonian was himself a trotter; for, with all the fame of his stock and of himself as the sire of great trotters and trotting sires, the world has little knowledge of his performances in the way of speed, or his ability to show any of that marvellous speed which in his sons and daughters has given him so great renown. In this particular he is somewhat like the distinguished son of Mambrino Chief, whose full sister was a star of the first magnitude, and who, as a producer of trotters of early speed, has found no superior, and perhaps no equal, but of whose ability to trot fast the world knows nothing.

So little was Hambletonian ever seen in harness, and so studiously was he excluded from all public exhibitions of speed, or even trotting action, that the public have grown in the impression that he was in no sense a trotter; and such opinion has at length become wide-spread and almost universal. The owner of Hambletonian was a man quite positive in his ways and opinions, and while he seemed to think he had the best horse ever produced, from the first to the last, he was at all times averse to trotting him in any contests, or even exhibitions of speed. The life of Hambletonian has been one of stallion-service,

and very rarely has any person other than his owner had opportunity to know or form any approximate idea of his powers as a trotter. Notwithstanding this, those who knew the horse best, have at all times entertained the opinion that, as a trotter, he had a capacity that was of the highest order, and far superior to either of his immediate or any of his more remote ancestors.

He was exhibited by his owner, as a three-year-old, at the New York State Fair. The other most noted son of Abdallah—Roe's Abdallah Chief—was also exhibited, and taken to the Union Course, on Long Island, for a trial of speed—Hambletonian, the three-year-old, against the four-year-old in-bred, and, I may say, richly-bred son of the same sire. The trial resulted in favor of Hambletonian—the time being about 3:03. Abdallah Chief being given another trial alone, made his mile in 2:55½. Hambletonian then went a second trial, this time alone, and made it in 2:48. This is the account said to have been given by the owners of both horses, and is regarded as authentic.

In his morning exercise in later years, say at the age of fifteen, he has been driven by a gentleman well known to the public, in about 2:40; and this gentleman, who has had better opportunities of knowing the trotting capacity of Hambletonian than any other person now living, assures me that he was a horse of great speed and power, and capable of going very fast, even as we regard speed in our day. It must be conceded that a horse that could trot in 2:48 at three years old, in the hands of a man having fixed and positive opinions against training or trotting a young stallion, and that could, after a life of severe and excessive stallion-service, and without special training for the purpose, show a mile in 2:45, or even trot at a 2:40 gait at the age of fifteen years, is in all respects an extraordinary animal, even in our day. And *such, truly, was Hambletonian.*

And how are we to regard him in the light of results of his produce in the various combinations with the blood of the prominent families of our day and those anterior to him? The Messenger and Abdallah trotters of the period cotemporary with Abdallah, were 2:40 horses—usually trotting in the forties, some in the thirties. The Bellfounders were about the same. The Stars, a more recent family, with the advance of skill in training, were also about a 2:40 family; some of the best of them trotting in the thirties, but not many.

The trotting horse of to-day—the combined Abdallah-Bellfounder—is a horse of the teens: Goldsmith Maid, 2:14; Dexter, 2:17¼; Gloster, 2:17; Bodine, 2:19¼; St. Julien, 2:22½; Gazelle, 2:21; Fuller-

ton, 2:18 ; Mountain Boy, 2:20 $\frac{3}{4}$  ; Jay Gould, 2:21 $\frac{1}{2}$  ; Nettie, 2:18 ; Startle, ——. Joe Elliot, a trotter equal in merits, perhaps to the best, and if left as a stallion would, in my opinion, have probably stood as a bright star in the firmament.

It may be useful here to inquire, in what instance has the blood of either of these families, alone and unmixed by the other, accomplished such results? Where has Abdallah, unaided by the Bellfounder cross, a single descendant that ever trotted below 2:20? Where has American Star more than a single son that has ever produced a trotter equal to 2:22? And where has the combined Star and Messenger of any branch attained a speed of 2:20, except in close connection with the Bellfounder cross? This Star blood, indeed, would have little ground to stand upon as a fast trotting family deprived of the fame they have attained through the produce of Hambletonian; nor, it is true, can any such superiority be claimed for the Bellfounder blood unaided by that of Messenger. It is the combination, in proper relation and degree, that gives the greatest exhibited superiority.

If such be the progress attained by the magical combination of these famous and all-powerful bloods, what shall be the lesson drawn from the results with regard to the future employment and preservation of all the essential ingredients that entered into our past successes? If neither of these elements, separate and alone, would have led us to our present grand eminence in breeding, and we have attained that point only as the result of the magical combination, what shall be the consequence if, disregarding the lessons of both the past and the present, we choose to discard one star of the grand constellation? We can accomplish this end, whether desirable or undesirable, in several ways. We can do it by—so far as possible in our breeding efforts—selecting our crosses in such manner as to weaken that blood which is the least powerful, either from arithmetical proportion or secondary stamina, by crossing toward that element which, in the given combination, preponderates over it, either in quantity or force, thus diluting its quality and controlling power; or we can do it by so breeding that it shall encounter elements uncongenial to itself, and thus, from its own lack of sympathy or affinity, compel it to stand an obstinate and unyielding element in the way of all fusing or affiliation between the various elements that enter into the combination. We have already treated this Bellfounder element in each of these ways, and the result should teach us one important lesson as to the manner in which we may derive the greatest profit from its superior qualities, or otherwise lose them altogether.

It has been a fact which can scarcely have escaped the observation of every intelligent breeder, that Hambletonian was not a success with thoroughbred mares. Those most familiar with the get of this horse, and particularly his late owner, it is said, have uniformly observed that he was an absolute failure with such mares, although no one can say he was not a highly-bred horse. I know it has been claimed that one of his sons, most distinguished as a trotter and a sire of trotters, is from a thoroughbred mare. The horse to which I refer—Edward Everett—is one in which the Bellfounder blood has had full scope, and a large share in the composition, and he is much too good a horse, in my opinion, ever to have been produced by Hambletonian from a strictly thoroughbred mare. As I shall give all of these prominent sons of Hambletonian full and separate consideration, I do not wish to be limited or concluded by the casual reference here made; nor do I wish it understood that I enter, by such opinions thus expressed, into the arena of any controversy concerning pedigrees. I give my opinions simply in the light of my understanding of the operation of one blood upon another. But to return. I may say that Hambletonian has had many very superior mares—some very fast ones, trotters, and those coming from racing families—yet he has failed to produce horses of even respectable trotting action from many of them. It is my opinion that he has not been so universally successful with all classes of mares as Strader's C. M. Clay Jr., and far behind Almont and Mambrino Patchen and others of that family. A close study of the characteristics of the produce wherein he has failed, will go far to show that it was in combination when this same Bellfounder element remained neutral, and was not called out or utilized. A similar lesson may be drawn from cases where he has even attained his greatest success.

A stallion—either racer or trotter—often produces his greatest performer from an outcross which, while not so remote as to possess no breeding affinity for the original type, yet introduces elements so foreign as to render the animal thus produced (great performer though he be) of no value as a reproducer—like the great Plenipotentary, a performer on the turf with no equal in his day, but as a sire a failure so great that he is sometimes called the poorest son of the greatest sire. The American Star family was made up almost precisely like American Eclipse, Post Boy, Blucher, Patriot, and several other families—a combination mainly of the blood of the two families of Diomed and Messenger. But similarity of blood does not always follow simi-

larity of pedigree; and this is the common error of many who reckon on the superiority of a given animal because he contains so great a number of crosses of families all proven by their known excellence of blood, not counting on the possible, or even very probable, chance of that blood working differently in different combinations. The Star blood has at all times worked well in its further commingling with the Messenger strains; and in the produce of Hambletonian from Star mares, it has eclipsed all its previous renown as performers on the trotting course. But the effect of this all-powerful combination on the struggling Bellfounder element is quite visible. While the influence of the Bellfounder blood is apparent in the performances of Dexter, Startle, Socrates, Jay Gould, Aberdeen, Micawber, and Huntress, it is also clear, from the change of form, that the two all-powerful elements of Messenger and Diomed are obtaining a physiological as well as an arithmetical supremacy, and if in the next generation the Dexters, the Startles, the Jay Goulds, and even the Huntresses fall behind those of this generation, the astute breeder may discover the cause in the overpowering of the ever-vital and ever-magical, but overmatched, Bellfounder element. The equilibrium of the best piece of mechanism can be disturbed, and so can the best-poised blood forces in breeding.

I will again refrain from entering the domain of prophecy, but will venture the suggestion that the present and the past will justify me in saying that the most successful sires produced by Hambletonian are and have been those in which the force and effect of the Bellfounder blood has been most apparent, and where its harmonious union with that of Messenger has been the least disturbed. If I am asked to name them, I will say that they will be found in the following list: Alexander's Abdallah, Administrator, Duke of Brunswick, Edward Everett, Florida, Happy Medium, Knickerbocker, Electioneer, Middletown, Volunteer, George Wilkes, Cuyler, Stephen A. Douglas.

Bear in mind that I here refer to the possession of the trotting quality, and the ability to transmit the same. The above animals all have their individual peculiarities, some of them perhaps have serious defects, which would exclude them from my choice as breeding stallions; but I here speak of them only in the one aspect of possessing the trotting quality, and their ability to transmit the same. As I shall treat of each and all of these at the proper place, and give my opinions freely and fully, I wish it understood that I reserve that place for my full estimate of the qualities and value of each.



I here insert a table, which will show the extent of the services of this remarkable sire, and which illustrates better than anything else the vigor of his constitution.

FOALS DROPPED TO HAMBLETONIAN SINCE HE WAS TWO YEARS  
OF AGE.

Years.	Age.	No. Mares Received.	Charge for Services.	No. Foals Dropped.
1851.....	2 years.....	4.....	Free.....	3
1852.....	3 years.....	17.....	\$ 25.....	13
1853.....	4 years.....	101.....	25.....	78
1854.....	5 years.....	88.....	35.....	62
1855.....	6 years.....	89.....	35.....	64
1856.....	7 years.....	87.....	35.....	64
1857.....	8 years.....	87.....	35.....	63
1858.....	9 years.....	72.....	35.....	54
1859.....	10 years.....	95.....	35.....	66
1860.....	11 years.....	106.....	35.....	72
1861.....	12 years.....	98.....	35.....	68
1862.....	13 years.....	158.....	35.....	111
1863.....	14 years.....	150.....	75.....	92
1864.....	15 years.....	217.....	100.....	148
1865.....	16 years.....	193.....	300.....	128
1866.....	17 years.....	105.....	500.....	75
1867.....	18 years.....	72.....	500.....	42
1868.....	19 years.....	None (sick).		
1869.....	20 years.....	22.....	500.....	18
1870.....	21 years.....	22.....	500.....	16
1871.....	22 years.....	30.....	500.....	26
1872.....	23 years.....	30.....	500.....	24
Totals .....		1,843		1,287

For the years 1873, 1874 and 1875 he was limited, as before, to thirty mares, at \$500, and the number of applications was nearly one hundred for each of those years. His services for 1875 were not very successful; but prior to that year the record shows that he produced foals in the ratio of about 69 per cent. of the mares received. From this it will appear that his foals number about thirteen hundred and twenty-five.

I have seen the estimate, that a larger percentage of his foals were males than females; but assuming that he had 700 sons, how small a proportion of them have proved themselves successful sires of trotters? Not four out of each hundred of his sons have been found to have produced a trotter capable of trotting in 2:30.

In estimating his value as a sire, in view of this disparaging ratio, we must bear in mind several facts, among which must be the random method in which mares have been selected for his service. He had some superior mares, and many very valuable ones that were ill suited to him as a sire. The philosophy of his make-up was little understood and less studied even by those who patronized his services. Many were sent to him as matters of experimenting, that were even unworthy of a trial, but their supposed fitness secured them a place. In looking over the list, I am compelled to dissent from the view of many who should be regarded as the best of authorities.

It will be found that he did best succeed with highly-bred mares, made up of part-bred and good road stock, having a strong, but not an overpowering infusion of Messenger blood. The part-bred mares, coming from crosses of Messenger, Trustee, American Eclipse, Duroc, Henry, May Day, Liberty, Bolivar, Blucher, Patriot, American Star, were those in which he showed his chief superiority. But it was those that had these crosses, and not the strong and positive whole bloods—not the deeply in-bred Messenger, never the strictly thorough-bred—the philosophy of which fact must be apparent to every reader of the principles to which we have previously adverted.

The following list, which has been taken from a 2:30 list to the close of the year 1877, will show the standing of the family of Hambletonian by the record:

	No. Performers.	Heats.	Time.
Hambletonian.....	27	344	2:17 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Abdallah (Alexander's) son of Hambletonian.....	5	351	2:14
Abdallah (Goldsmith's) son of Volunteer.....	1	1	2:30
Abadallah Pilot, son of Alexander's Abdallah.....	1	2	2:28
Almont, son of " " ".....	3	7	2:25
Belmont, " " ".....	3	35	2:23 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Billy Denton, son of Hambletonian.....	1	5	2:28
Chosroes, " " ".....	1	2	2:29
Delmonico, son of Guy Miller.....	1	3	2:25
Edward Everett, son of Hambletonian.....	6	176	2:18
George Wilkes, " " ".....	2	74	2:21
Gideon, " " ".....	1	6	2:28 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Hambletonian (Curtis') son of ".....	2	5	2:25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Hambletonian (Sackett's) " ".....	1	16	2:24
Hambletonian (Whipple's) son of Guy Miller.....	6	21	2:26 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Hambletonian (Wood's) son of Alexander's Abdallah.....	4	31	2:23
Happy Medium, son of Hambletonian.....	3	7	2:27
Independent, " " ".....	1	1	2:29 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Carried forward...	69	1,087	

	No. Performers.	Heats	Time.
Brought forward.....	69	1,087	
Iron Duke, son of Hambletonian.....	1	9	2:21
Jay Gould, " ".....	1	3	2:28½
Ledger, son of Robert Bonner.....	1	6	2:25¼
Logan, (Gage's) son of Hambletonian.....	1	1	2:28¾
Lysander, " ".....	1	16	2:23
Middletown, " ".....	2	24	2:21½
Peacemaker, " ".....	1	2	2:22¼
Reporter, " ".....	1	1	2:28
Robert Bonner, " ".....	1	2	2:28
Samson, " ".....	1	1	2:29
Seneca Chief, " ".....	1	10	2:26
Sentinel, " ".....	3	17	2:26
Speculation, " ".....	1	16	2:22
Stephen A. Douglas, " ".....	3	19	2:23
Tramp, son of Gage's Logan.....	1	10	2:25
Volunteer, son of Hambletonian.....	16	300	2:17
Wallkill Chief, son of ".....	3	46	2:19
Young Volunteer, son of Volunteer.....	1	6	2:27
Totals.....	109	1,576	

The above list shows 27 performers produced by Hambletonian himself, with 344 heats in 2:30 or better, and a time record of 2:17¼. For the entire family descended from him in the direct or male line, it shows a list of 109 performers, with 1,576 heats, in 2:30 or better, and the lowest record yet obtained by any trotter, 2:14. In this list I have not included Rarus, although the known facts point to the conclusion that his sire was a son of Hambletonian, but it is not certainly known. He has a record of 2:16, and 106 heats in 2:30 or better, prior to the close of 1877, and is now in the midst of a career that promises to rival that of Goldsmith Maid. Her record stands at 2:14, with 332 heats in 2:30 or better. The sum total is truly a wonderful one to have resulted from a horse that has so recently closed his career.

Having given, thus full, the history and estimate of this great trotting sire, as I gather the same from the facts that have been brought within my reach, I leave him; his record belongs to history, but his value to the breeding interest of this country belongs both to the present and the hereafter; and in gently dismissing him, we may well inquire if he has left any son or sons that will maintain the high distinction that has been accorded to him, or that will add to the renown and the fame of the Hambletonian family.

## CHAPTER VII.

### VOLUNTEER.

THIS distinguished son of Hambletonian was foaled on the 1st day of May, 1854, and is consequently now near the full age of twenty-four years. He was bred by Joseph Hetzel, of Florida, Orange county, New York, and was by him sold to R. C. Underhill, of Brooklyn, in the fall of 1858, who held him for nearly four years, and then passed him to the ownership and possession of Alden Goldsmith, of Orange county, who has kept him for a period of nearly sixteen years past. This horse is one well worthy of our careful study in relation to the mere question of breeding, and without any regard to his own merits, or demerits, be they great or small. He is very like Hambletonian, and has more of the essential and distinctive points which make up Hambletonian than any of his sons that I have ever seen. Again, in some respects, he is positively and clearly unlike him, and in all these respects, or points of difference, the distinguishing features follow Volunteer in all his produce with an absolute uniformity scarcely to be found in any family—not even in that of Hambletonian himself—and extend also to the produce of daughters of Volunteer by other stallions. The Volunteer type follows them, and this fact points with unerring certainty to the powerful and controlling agency of the blood of some animal in the past, which exerts to this date such an important influence. The force and quality of this blood agency, wherever it may have existed, is found in having in Volunteer preserved so much of that outward form of Bellfounder in the composition of Hambletonian, together with so many of the traits or characteristics of the Bellfounder blood, and blending the same, both as to form and character, with so many traits of the thoroughbred or race-horse.

Nowhere has Hambletonian, in his own sons, approached so near the type of a great race-horse, or strictly thoroughbred, as in Volunteer, and rarely has he, at the same time, retained more of the essen-

tial points of form and temper of the Bellfounder trotter. There has never been any difficulty in crossing the Messenger blood upon other thoroughbred stock. Messenger's richest qualities were displayed in the readiness with which he imparted his great and controlling characteristics alike to the produce of the best road stock and the highest type of the thoroughbred. In American Eclipse, Medoc, Monmouth Eclipse and Post Boy we have his highest excellence and greatest superiority manifested in combination with the blood of Duroc and Expedition.

But the Bellfounder and the thoroughbred or racing families, in blood, form and temper, were not calculated to blend or cross well together. Nevertheless, in Volunteer the union has been complete. Volunteer has the massive Bellfounder shoulder, long body, round barrel and heavy quarters of Hambletonian in proportion and at every part. His back is a little shorter, as his shoulder is a little more sloping. His shoulder is heavy and extends forward, as it does in no other except Hambletonian. His rump, like Hambletonian's, is one inch higher than his withers, and in his measurement from hip to stifle, and from each to the root of the tail, he is very much like his sire, but not quite so large. The lines *H*, *G*, *F*, respectively as follows: *H*—17, *G*—27, *F*—22, show his comparative size in that quarter. He stands 63 inches at the withers, and 64 at the rump. His length of body, as compared with other Hambletonians, is as follows: He is 67 inches in length, while Aberdeen is 65, Wilkins Micawber 65, Jay Gould 64, Thorndale 66, Electioneer 64, Ellwood 67, Messenger Duroc 67, Everett 64. Hopeful, a long-appearing horse, is 64; Orient 62, and Sensation is 61. Volunteer's back is 28 inches, his neck is 36, and his windpipe 20, showing a neck, above and below, 4 inches longer than his sire's. His girth at the throttle is 33 inches. His neck, the long, slender and gracefully-curved neck of the thoroughbred; a full, flowing mane, foretop and tail; a large horse, weighing 1,200 lbs., on short but very fine and blood-like limbs, as fine as Sir Archy or Eclipse ever bore; feet not large, but good size, spreading from the coronet downward, and open at the heel—an outline which gives some idea of the two blood forces that have so quietly and so harmoniously blended in his outward conformation. In the head and face, however—in the brain he carries, and in the nerve power he displays—are found the chief qualities that stamp character on the horse. His head is unlike that of Hambletonian, and not similar to the idea we have of Bellfounder. His face and broad forehead are

doubtless more like the latter; his ear is like his sire; his eye is not an Abdallah eye, yet a full, placid and quiet eye—until he is led out, and then it is anything but quiet. In his box-stall he is very kind and docile, obedient to the word of command of his keeper, and can be moved about from place to place and inspected without a hand touching him, a simple word being sufficient. But lead him out and the aspect is changed. No effort of the pen can delineate the flashing eye, the curving neck, the whole frame swelling with the nervous energy which he then presents. I confess that my feeling was one of mingled hope and fear with reference to the ability of man and rein to hold the pent-up fire that seemed roused to such a sudden exhibition. Never could Grey Eagle, when brought out for his famous contest with Wagner, have shown more of the royal blood of the great race-horse in form or temper than did this twenty-two-year-old son of Hambletonian when led out of his box on a cold day in January. As to his perfect health and soundness of limb and joint, all that has been said of Hambletonian will apply to him—he is without a blemish. His limbs, joints and tendons at this day show a fineness of quality, a perfection of all that pertains to health, that can not be surpassed by anything found in any family I ever examined.

He has the one quality for which the Abdallah and Bellfounder families, in their pure state, when unaffected by unsound crosses, always show—that overpowering element of health of blood, fibre, muscle, tendon, and joint, that keeps out disease, that endures friction, and even the wear and tear of hard usage, and yet resists the inroads and ravages of infirmity or decay, and almost triumphs over time itself. He has a quality of cellular tissue that does not irritate and inflame by friction or use, and his synovial fluids are all absorbed and taken up by natural processes, without resort to any of the unnatural aids of firing or blistering; hence there is no tendency to curbs or spavins in the family, the cause and the philosophy of which are plain to any intelligent student of physiology.

In color, the Volunteer family follow the example of his sire, and choose the Bellfounder type—all bays or browns, and no chestnuts. In regard to the matter of gait, or way of going, it is difficult to say whether Abdallah or Bellfounder has had the absolute or greater control, as a new element has come in that has had the effect in great part of modifying and controlling both the blood forces of Abdallah and Bellfounder. But it must be kept clear that in this I only speak as to the manner or way of going, not the essential nerve element

derived from the breeding itself which constitutes the animal a trotter, or a galloper, or neither. While the outward form and way of going may indicate Abdallah in one instance and Bellfounder in many others, the blood forces of both are there present in full union and perfect harmony. In point of that which we call *trotting quality*, Abdallah had no trait or nerve force that is not present in full force in Volunteer, while Bellfounder is displayed in every impulse or motion. The vital blood forces of each are there in all that enters into his character as a trotter. He is none of your trotting thoroughbreds, that have acquired the art from some assiduous and careful teacher, but he is a trotter by nature, from blood and inheritance.

Nevertheless, as to the matter of gait, the Volunteers do not trot precisely after the Abdallah pattern, nor do they exactly follow the Bellfounder way of going, and yet they all, with wonderful uniformity, follow their own, the Volunteer model. If I am asked why this is so, I answer that, as I have already in part shown, this matter of gait or way of going is largely affected by anatomical construction—a matter of conformation of certain parts, and their relation to each other—and in this particular the Volunteer family afford one of the best illustrations to be found anywhere.

Let it be kept in mind that the Hambletonian family have, as might be expected, a distinctive type, as shown in their points of measurement, to which they adhere with great uniformity—subject, however, to sub-family types, which, while following in great part the one original of Hambletonian, have also their peculiarities. This is the case with the Everetts, and all of the Star cross, as will be shown when we come to them, but for the present, we have a family sufficiently marked, and at the same time sufficiently uniform, for the purposes of very clear and explicit demonstration.

It has been alleged against the Volunteers that they lack in knee-action; also, that their knee-action is defective. One gentleman has it, a “thoroughbred way of handling their forelegs, a *friction*, which undoubtedly comes from Volunteer’s dam,” etc., etc. Without stopping to consider where it comes from, I will say that the Volunteers have not necessarily a lack of knee-action, nor a defective knee-action. They have enough of it for their purposes, and hence, if it suits them, it is of the right kind. The error comes from the writer not understanding that the Volunteers require less of what to him is apparent—visible knee-action—than any family, perhaps, which he has seen. They are longer in the forearm, and correspondingly shorter in the

front cannon-bone, than any other family. Hence, they reach their feet further-out with a given elevation of the knee, and consequently with less apparent bending of the joint than some of their cousins in the Hambletonian blood, who, from the very shortness of their forearms, are compelled to lift their knees very high to get their forefeet forward, and out of the way of the hind ones. These fellows make great show of trotting; that is, they show *superior knee-action*, according to this gentleman's way of putting it; but while they are lifting their knees so high, the Volunteers are showing *their* heels in the fast increasing distance. The one lift their knees very high; the other trot very fast—that is exactly the difference. Hambletonian, in his forearm, is  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  in his front cannon-bone, while Volunteer is 21 inches in forearm, and  $11\frac{1}{4}$  in his cannon-bone, and Wildfire, a large son of Volunteer, is 21 and 11; Huntress, 20 and  $10\frac{3}{4}$ ; Sister,  $19\frac{5}{8}$  and  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ; Annie G, 20 and  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ; and a large mare by Volunteer, dam by Everett, 2d dam by Harry Clay, is 21 and 11. I examined carefully, at different places, above twenty of the produce of Volunteer, and found that they uniformly showed a short cannon-bone and a long forearm. Hence, when they trot, they go with a low, easy and far-reaching gait, not appearing to go fast—but the record and appearances do not agree. A trotting horse may not differ from another one-half of an inch in his height or the length of his forelegs, but if he differs from the other one-half of an inch in the relative length of his cannon-bone and his forearm, it will make a very perceptible difference in the trotting gait of the two animals.

From the centre of the hip to the point of the hock, Volunteer is 40 inches; from the point of stifle to the point of hock—length of thigh—he is 24, and from point of hock to the centre of ankle joint he is 17 inches. He is also 25 inches across the loin from hip to hip, one inch larger than Hambletonian in his width across the loin or through the hips, but not so large according to the side view, or measurement of the hindquarters. His family run in the same proportion with great uniformity, the large ones a little longer and the smaller a little shorter in each part, but with very uniform proportion, more so than the sons and daughters of Hambletonian, so far as they have come under my observation in like numbers. They run  $39\frac{1}{2}$ — $23\frac{1}{2}$  behind, 20 and  $10\frac{3}{4}$  in front, for length of limb, and 24 inches across loin from hip to hip. The only two material variations from this scale were the stallion Wildfire, whose dam was by Morse Morgan, son of Morse Horse, sire of Norman, and the cross was apparent in the length of



thigh, 24 inches, and 41 from hip to hock, which gives him more of the open gait and higher hock action than the residue of the family. The other variation was the large mare, dam by Everett, 2d dam by Harry Clay. This mare has a measurement of  $41\frac{1}{2}$ , 25, 17, and 26 inches across the loins from hip to hip. Her Harry Clay or extra Bell-founder cross gives her the long limb and the wide gait and far-reaching stride. These two will probably trot with hind feet wider apart than any of the Volunteers I have inspected, and the reason of the departure is apparent, although the difference is more in the size of the animals than in their relative proportions; hence, the difference in gait as a whole will be very slight. The Volunteer characteristics will predominate.

Since inspecting the above, I have seen Bodine—15.2 $\frac{1}{2}$  hands high. He is 41—24 $\frac{1}{4}$  in rear measurement, and 11 $\frac{1}{4}$  and 21 $\frac{1}{2}$  in front. The majority of those I have inspected are horses under 15.3. One mare that is sixteen hands, measured 40 and 24, precisely as Volunteer does, and I think that such would be the usual proportions. This one was 11 and 21 $\frac{1}{2}$  on her forelegs. I have not found a Volunteer of any size that was 12 inches in the front cannon, although I find many horses 12 inches there that are not over 15.2 in height.

I may say that the Volunteer family do not display what is called wide, open action behind, and yet they do not trot close. There is not a sprawler among them, nor is there any reason to complain of interference. Their action is not so close as to be objectionable, but true and even, and quite uniform.

The Volunteers are not an early family. This will probably account for what we sometimes hear of the difficulty of breaking them, and the writer above referred to speaks of a great friend of Volunteer, who has broken and handled many colts, and who said he would rather break four of the get of any other son of Hambletonian than one Volunteer. There is probably something in this, and probably more in knowing just how they should be handled. That many have been spoiled by not thoroughly understanding their high temper, and by the effort to make them trot fast before they were ready, is probably only too true. Some things are certain about them. They do not get ready to trot fast as early as some other families of Hambletonians, and they will not allow the impatient drivers and breakers to urge them by the use of the whip, as is sometimes done, and as can be done with others.

The man who would bring out a Volunteer colt with success

must at all times treat him with great kindness and perfect gentleness. They have a spirit and a temper that will not allow any other treatment. It is pretty well understood that they have a hot spot somewhere, and it is a peculiarity of temperament that comes from some source a long way back, and adheres to the family even in the more remote descendants. They must not and can not safely be urged or asked for speed until they are perfectly mature and ready—say at about the age of six years—when, if they have been properly jogged and gentled until that time, and taught to foot or trot in the right fashion they will show their speed, and plenty of it. That they will last in the race, and from year to year, there can be no reason to doubt. They are a whalebone family, and bottom to the last.

In former years, when it was common, if not popular, in Orange county to express disapproval or fault with Volunteer, it was often said that he was too high in temper, had a “disagreeable and head-strong disposition,” and “the wildness and great deficiency in mental balance most of them show make it very uncertain what to breed to him,” and “too wild and foolish to be counted on as producing any but a very *small proportion of trotters*.”

This same writer says that “the Volunteers are generally good-sized, handsome horses, showing more of the Bellfounder than the Messenger,” and this last expression I quote because of its correctness, that I may not be said to deal only in such statements of this very intelligent gentleman as have been already overturned as unsound. Volunteer and his family are noted for a temper and nervous organization of the very highest order, and higher, perhaps, than any other son of Hambletonian that has attained any distinction, but, at the same time, this trait is coupled with intelligence and docility of the highest order. They require a firm hand, but a kind and intelligent one; and instead of lacking in brain power, they have that quality to a degree that has told in many a hotly-contested race, that mental or nervous force of will that goes to the end conqueror or dies in the attempt, but in their case generally coupled with the physical stamina and speed to get there alive, and ready for many more.

A few facts in the history of this horse will set his qualities in their proper light. He went out of the hands of his breeder at four and a half years of age, after he had won the premium given for stallions in Orange county, which he did with grace and ease, passing into the hands of Mr. Underhill before he had arrived at years of maturity.

He was not handled with proper care nor understanding for the next four years, and was consequently nearly spoiled for trotting purposes, although possessed of great speed. He was bought by his present owner on the 26th of June, 1862. While in the possession of his breeder, Mr. Hetzel, he was stunted to a few mares, and got about a dozen colts out of this number. His present owner, about the time that he bought the sire, bought four of his colts; three of the four became so well known and popular in horse circles as to need only a mention in this article, viz.: Mr. Thorne's Hamlet, who has twice secured the first prize at New York State Fair, and the first prize at the National Horse Exhibition held at Narragansett Park, in the fall of 1868, where he trotted a full mile direct from the stud in 2:30; and Matchless, who was also awarded first prize at the same exhibition, for the finest and best gentleman's road horse, and was driven a full mile by his owner afterward in 2:30, to a 150 lb. wagon, on Prospect Park track. The third of the trio, Idler, a horse of wonderful speed and promise, met with an accident which eventually caused his death. Volunteer's next appearance at the county fair at Goshen was during the fall of 1862. The track at Goshen had just been altered from a third of a mile to a half-mile track, and was in very bad condition. His competitors were Winfield, Grey Confidence, and several other good ones. Each horse was timed by himself. Volunteer won again in two straight heats, without a break, trotting to a wagon in 2:36, and beating all his competitors by nine seconds. But his being virtually removed from the stud for four years made a wide gap in the produce of his stock to be bridged over.

On his return to Orange county, an opposition was made to him on the part of the owner and friends of Hambletonian that greatly limited him, and almost excluded him from service as a stallion. It was just at the time when Hambletonian was attaining great fame; and as Volunteer could not be assailed on the ground of his having an unfit sire, his dam was made the object of obloquy and reproach rarely heaped upon the head of one female of the equine race. Owing to the limited service brought to him, and the tardiness of his offspring in showing the trotting quality, he did not begin to rally from the burden of unpopularity and abuse which had been lavished upon him until about the date of the article above quoted. In that same article, the writer who seemed to entertain such a midnight estimate of Volunteer, heralded the dawn of day in the following inadvertent words:

All of his get, with the exception of the stallion Hamlet, who can beat 2:30 considerably, that have any public reputation, gained it this season, and are, I think, all of the same age—six years. They are: the stallion W. H. Allen, one of the very best young horses that ever appeared, said to be out of an Abdallah mare; Huntress, out of a very fine Star mare; and Bodine, out of a very coarse mare by Harry Clay. The two former seem bound to become great horses, but though Bodine has plenty of speed, it is probable that the Clay blood in him will prevent his ever being very useful to his owner.

So much for that unfortunate Clay blood, though it might have been a relief to the mind of the writer to have assured him that this Clay blood had a cross of Bellfounder just back of it that would make this same Bodine worth nearly \$15,000 to his owner in a single year, and have plenty in him for many another. Such was the announcement made in 1870. In 1871, W. H. Allen trotted nine consecutive heats, all of which were in 2:34 and under, and the fastest was won by himself in 2:27. He trotted, during the same season, twenty-four heats, and reached a record of 2:25½. During the same year Bodine marked 2:30¼, and Huntress marked 2:26½. During the year 1872, Abdallah, a son of Volunteer, trotted in 2:36¼, during the season of stallion service; the trotting wonder Gloster came to the front, trotting twenty-four heats, and marking a record of 2:27½, and Huntress covered the family with a fame that has not and will not soon be eclipsed by her celebrated three-mile performance against the time of the famous Duchman, which had often been attempted by many of the great trotters of the period, but without success for thirty-three years. Duchman's time for three miles was 7:32½, and Huntress made it in 7:21¼, beating the hitherto unapproached record eleven and a quarter seconds, and placing the mark where it will not be likely to be again disturbed for another quarter of a century. During the same year, the mare Mary A. Whitney reached a record of 2:32½, and Wm. H. Allen reached 2:23½. The roll thus beginning to unfold soon grew in fame and brilliancy, until the following, taken from the *Spirit of the Times* for September, 1875, announced the position of Volunteer:

It is as a sire of trotters that Volunteer stands pre-eminent. If we take the records of horses that have beaten 2:25 as a test of the highest order of excellence among trotters, there is no stallion in the world that has excelled him, and only one—his own sire—has equaled him. Each of these illustrious sires can boast of eight of his get that have beaten 2:25 in a public race; and as Volunteer is five years the younger of the two, if we judge solely by the records of first-class performers, he is entitled to rank much above the Old Horse as a sire of trotters. The great excellence of the get of Volunteer has not

been appreciated until within the past three years, as up to that time but one of them had made a record below 2:30; but the great performance of Huntress, when, three years ago, she beat Dutchman's famous three-mile performance, which had stood the wonder of the world for thirty-three years, opened the eyes of the public to the merits of Volunteer as a sire, and since then the Volunteers have been flashing out as stars of the first magnitude in the trotting firmament. We have Gloster, who has often been called the most wonderful trotter the world has ever produced, who made such a brilliant campaign last year, ending with a record of 2:17; Bodine, the "Whirlwind of the West," with a record of 2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Huntress, with her unparalleled record of three miles in 7:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and a mile in 2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; St. Julien, the great six-year-old, that this season, with only three months' training, has won six races in three weeks, scoring a record of 2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and demonstrating his ability to trot in 2:18; Amy, another of the year's bright stars, with a record of 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; and Carrie, yet another one of the season's luminaries, with 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$  to her credit; and then the great stallion W. H. Allen, with 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; and Frank Wood, with 2:24; and Sister (full sister to Huntress), that, only taken up from the pasture last June, was at St. Julien's throat-latch in 2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ , at Hartford. All these, brought out within the short space of three years, proclaim Volunteer's pre-eminent merits as a sire of trotters—not passably fair trotters, but trotters of the very highest stamp—in tones that can not be mistaken, and which will not longer pass unheeded by breeders. The bringing out of four such performers as St. Julien, Amy, Carrie and Sister in one year, is alone enough to establish the reputation of Volunteer as a great sire; but when it comes backed up by the performances of the others above named, in the 2:25 class, and with California Dexter, record 2:27; Mary A. Whitney, 2:28; and Goldsmith's Abdallah (killed last spring at Cynthiana), 2:30, there can be no question as to his ranking first among the sons of Rysdyk's Hambletonian; and when we make allowance for the difference in age, there are many who claim that he deserves to rank even higher than his illustrious sire, as a getter of trotters. There may be those coming after him, younger in years, that may wrest his honors from him, but, at present, his claim to stand at the head of the list of trotting sires can only be disputed by his own famous progenitor. His fame is one of which all lovers of trotting horses may well be proud, and should be especially gratifying to the admirers of this family.

The following Volunteer exhibit, recently published, shows the standing of the family in the spring of 1878:

Gloster .....	2:17	Alley.....	2:24
Bodine.....	2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$	Carrie.....	2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Huntress.....	2:20 $\frac{3}{4}$	Driver.....	2:25
Powers.....	2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$	Huntress (3 miles).....	7:21 $\frac{1}{4}$
Amy.....	2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$	California Dexter.....	2:27
St. Julien.....	2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$	Lady Morrison.....	2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$
W. H. Allen.....	2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$	Mary A. Whitney.....	2:28
Trio.....	2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$	Goldsmith's Abdallah.....	2:30
Frank Wood .....	2:24	Sister.....	2:30 $\frac{1}{2}$

Ristori.....	2:31 $\frac{1}{2}$	Nelly Mattison.....	2:35
Volney.....	2:33	Fanny Osborn.....	2:35
Harry B.....	2:34	Volunteer Maid.....	2:36
Sterling.....	2:34	Hamlet (to wagon) .....	2:37
Mary Lamb....	2:34	Pelham.....	2:37
Matchless.....	2:34		

In reaching a true estimate of the real greatness of Volunteer as a sire, we must compare him with his own imperial sire, Hambletonian, the only name that can approach him. Hambletonian closed his career, and left a record of about thirteen hundred and twenty-five foals, four hundred and sixty-four of which number were produced before he was eleven years old; and of his whole number he has a record of 2:30 and better for twenty-seven, which is one for each forty-eight; and a record of 2:25 and better for ten, which is one for each one hundred and thirty.

Volunteer, April 1, 1865, at the age of ten years, had, as I am informed, only about eighteen foals. He has now probably over four hundred and seventy-five to this date; but putting the number at five hundred, he has twenty-eight performers with a record of 2:40 or better, which is one out of each eighteen; sixteen with a record of 2:30 or better, which is one for each thirty-one; and twelve with a record of 2:25 or better, which is one for each forty-one. This ratio places him far ahead of Hambletonian, or any other stallion we have ever produced, as the sire of fast trotters.

This leaves Volunteer a far greater proportion, while the produce of Hambletonian have nearly all now come to maturity, and it is not probable that over three-fourths of the produce of Volunteer are old enough to make their appearance on the public courses. Moreover, it is a well known fact that for the first fifteen years of his life Volunteer's popularity was not such as to bring him the best class of mares, while Hambletonian at all times had the best that could be selected. But for certainty of trotting speed, Hambletonian, great as he was, did not equal in uniformity the success of Volunteer.

In view of this marvelous showing, I may well ask if the day has not arrived for the reversal of the judgment of those who were so ready to assert that he could not "*be counted on as producing any but a small proportion of trotters.*"

The one noticeable feature about the fast trotters of this family is the apparent lateness or tardiness of their coming out, and the suddenness of their advent. St. Julien was bought for \$600, and at the end

of a little over one year had shown a record of 2:22½, and an ability to go, as stated above, equal to 2:18, had won about \$8,000 in public purses, and sold for \$20,000—and this in close proximity to that same Clay cross of which the writer first above noticed made such doleful lament.

It remains for us to consider the breeding of Volunteer, which has placed him thus in the front rank of American trotting stallions, at an age and in a degree of health and vitality which gives promise that as a sire of great trotters he may attain a rank and a fame as far in advance of the past, and as unapproachable in the present or future, as has been scored by his daughter Huntress, in her crowning performance of three miles in 7:21¼.

Let me recur to an observation which was made in a previous part of this sketch, that Volunteer was more like his sire, and more of a Bell-founder than any other well known son of Hambletonian, and that, at the same time, he was nearer the true type of a genuine thoroughbred race-horse. Also, recurring to a proposition heretofore advanced, and which will be conceded by every intelligent observer, I think, that Hambletonian has not crossed well with any thoroughbred mare.

By what process of blood combination, then, has this result been attained, which is so worthy of observation and so clearly manifest in the character and qualities displayed by Volunteer, and so uniformly transmitted to his family? It was the old-time accusation urged against Volunteer, that his dam was the controlling element in his composition. Such was the burden of an opposition that cast a mountain of prejudice in the course of this horse during ten years of the early part of his life. After a close and thorough study of Volunteer and his family, and of his dam and her produce by several other stallions, I am forced to the conclusion that the charge was well founded, and that the facts of history, as they exist to-day, establish the truth of the accusation.

Before entering upon a consideration of the history and blood qualities of the dam of Volunteer, let me ask, in the light of his own character as herein set forth, what kind of a mare could, from Hambletonian as a sire, have produced such a son? From the stand of intelligent breeding philosophy, I answer, she could not have been a strictly thoroughbred mare. No such mare could have drawn from Hambletonian so many of the traits and qualities of the Bellfounder blood, so marked and fixed in its type, as are seen in Volunteer. Furthermore, she could not have been a mare of an overpowering or greatly pre-

ponderating share of Messenger blood. Such a mare would have produced a son with a preponderating share of Messenger characteristics, one that was coarser in his outline and heavier in bone, with more of the positive peculiarities of the Abdallah cross. Moreover, she could not have been a mare entirely lacking in or destitute of Messenger blood. No mare without a fair admixture of the blood of Messenger, well blending with that of Duroc or other thoroughbred crosses, could have reached, drawn out and preserved the commingled strains of Messenger and Bellfounder in Hambletonian, and presented each of the same so perfect and so much in harmony one with the other. This could scarcely have been accomplished without some element of this magical and powerful Messenger blood, the one great peculiarity of which is its ready ability to fuse with any and all bloods, and to draw out and present ready for use all the good qualities of any other element with which it may be combined. But above all, the dam of Volunteer could not have been a low-bred animal. That is so apparent as to require no demonstration. That slender neck, those blood-like limbs, and that general form so near the type of thoroughbred, could not have come from any but a mare nearly thoroughbred, and of great and passing positiveness in her blood characteristics—one of marked distinctive individuality.

The dam of Volunteer was a bay mare, foaled May 1, 1850, and lived until July, 1876. She produced this distinguished stallion on the day she was four years old. The following is the record of her produce:

1854—b. c. Volunteer .....	by Hambletonian.
1855—b. c. Hetzel's Hambletonian.....	by Hambletonian.
1857—b. f. (dead).....	by Hambletonian.
1860—b. c. Green's Hambletonian.....	by Hambletonian.
1862—br. f. Heroine.....	by Hambletonian.
1863—b. c. Sentinel.....	by Hambletonian.
1864—b. c. (dead) .....	by Ashland.
1866—ch. f. Evelina.....	by Ashland.
1867—ch. c. Barbecue.....	by Surplus.
1868—b. c. Barbarian.....	by Surplus.
1869—b. c. Crusader .....	by Mambrunello.
1870—b. f. Thorndale Belle .....	by Thorndale.
1871—ch. c. Sharpshooter .....	by Thorndale.
1872—b. c. Marksman.....	by Thorndale.
1873—b. c. Patriot .....	by Thorndale.

Of the above number the reader does not require to be reminded of the stallion Sentinel, that went to Kentucky and died there from



some unknown cause. I saw him in October, 1873, after a large season's service, trot on the Lexington track in 2:29 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Hardly a stallion in the country, doing the same service, could have equaled the performance. In 1874, the old mare slipped a foal by Thorndale, soon after became sway-backed, and failed to breed since that date, but retained the most perfect health, and, for a mare twenty-six years old that had raised such a numerous offspring, was, in March, 1876, a marvel of vigor and constitutional soundness. She died in July of that year. She was bred by John Cape, of Orange county, and passed into the hands of Joseph Hetzel, the breeder of Volunteer, and was by him sold to David Seely, and by him to Strong Y. Satterlee, and then to Wm. M. Rysdyk, and was purchased by Mr. Edwin Thorne through a friend. Mr. Thorne still owns a number of her produce. Mr. Satterlee paid \$125 for her, and Mr. Rysdyk paid \$200 for her, desiring her for a brood mare, although she had been injured in one of her shoulders by accident. After he had sold her, and when her three sons, Volunteer, Hetzel's and Green's Hambletonian, were attracting notice, Mr. Rysdyk made the following contribution to the war upon Volunteer by way of a note to the gentleman who had bought her for Mr. Thorne:

You are surprised to hear me pronounce the dam of Volunteer a dunghill. I bought her for a dunghill, and I sold her for a dunghill, and I know she is a dunghill; and that is not all—she is the most worthless piece of horseflesh that I ever owned.

which was not much of a recommendation for Volunteer as a competitor of the greatest trotting stallion this country has yet produced.

Nothing whatever was ever known of the blood of the dam of this mare. She was a mahogany bay mare, brought by Lewis Hulse from Rockland county, which adjoins Orange, and was both a running and trotting mare, and as such, was held out under a challenge to run or trot against anything that could be led into the county. I have seen the statement that she was held as a standing challenge to run against any horse, and then to trot against the same one. This scrap of history, though brief, casts much light on the character and qualities of the dam of the mare now under consideration, and from this and the locality whence she came, some inference may be drawn concerning her probable blood. It was the region where the blood of the two families of Messenger and Diomed, through Duroc, Henry, and Eclipse, was the chief element in running and trotting circles. This mare was stinted by John Cape, of Orange county, to a horse called

Young Patriot, that was brought into that county by parties who stated that he came from Oneida county, and that he was by Patriot, son of Blucher, and his dam by Messenger Duroc. The produce was this mare, Lady Patriot, dam of Volunteer. This horse, Young Patriot, was in Orange county during 1849, and for that year only, and Mr. Rysdyk regarded him good enough for the Charles Kent mare, as she was sent to him that year and produced a filly. The following is an extract from the advertisement of Young Patriot for 1849:

Young Patriot was by Old Patriot; Old Patriot by the celebrated horse, Blucher. The mare from which Young Patriot was got was from the celebrated horse, Messenger Duroc, who was by old Eclipse.

It is also therein said that in movement—speed in trotting—and appearance, he would not suffer in comparison with any horse in the State. This is about all that can be ascertained with any degree of certainty regarding the sire of the dam of Volunteer, Lady Patriot, as she has been called in late years.

Blucher was a thoroughbred by Duroc; dam, Young Damsel by Hambletonian, son of Messenger; 2d dam, Miller's Damsel by Messenger, and she was dam of American Eclipse. So that it will be seen Blucher was in blood much like Eclipse, only having another cross of Messenger, his dam being an in-bred granddaughter of Messenger. We have no account of any Messenger Duroc by Eclipse, hence that part of the pedigree goes for nothing. Had this horse, Patriot, been raised in Orange or Dutchess counties, something would have been known of him. The stock was known in both Oneida and Chemung counties (distant counties), and very little can be gathered except that he was probably a running and trotting part-bred horse, very nearly thoroughbred, and made up of the then popular bloods of that section—that of Messenger and Duroc in the foreground, and extending to other thoroughbred lines further back.

It is probable that the dam of Lady Patriot, from her character and the locality from which she came, was similarly bred, and that she had some Messenger and not above one or two Duroc crosses. The character given to the Hulse mare, and the locality in which she was found, warrant the belief that she was a mare of very high breeding, and her trotting quality also warrants the conclusion that she had some of the blood of Messenger, as that was the trotting blood of that quarter. The hot spot in the head of the family probably came from her. It was a well known characteristic of Lady Patriot, and as this

is not a feature of the Duroc-Messenger blood the inference is pretty strong that it came from the other mare. It is a well understood fact, that the family of Volunteer are not very cool or dull in that part of their organism.

Lady Patriot had not much of the Duroc appearance, although at three years old she had a Duroc certificate in the shape of a puff on the side of the hock which became a running sore, and was assigned as the cause for breeding instead of breaking her at that age. None of her produce have ever shown any defect in the hock, and the Volunteer family have clean, well-shaped hocks, which shows that the Duroc blood had no control in her composition, although her measurement of 24 inches in the length of her thigh, and the long thigh of Volunteer, would gently point to Duroc, as will clearly appear by reference to that part of Chapter V which gives an account of Duroc.

I have inspected the old mare, and several of her produce at Mr. Thorne's, including several in the second generation by different sires, among them Heroine by Hambletonian, Marksman, Patriot, Sharpshooter, and Barbecue—a chestnut mare by Thorndale from Heroine, and others, and I find the old mare possessed and has transmitted uniformly to her descendants, the peculiarity of measurement displayed by Volunteer and his family. Her front cannon-bone was  $10\frac{1}{2}$  and her forearm 21. She was  $38\frac{1}{2}$  from hip to hock, and 24 in length of thigh. Her neck was 36 inches, and her windpipe 22, from which the increased length of neck in Volunteer is apparent. Her colts by Thorndale bear a most striking resemblance to Volunteer and his produce. Marksman, at four years of age, was pronounced the exact likeness of Volunteer at the same age. I will say that I have never inspected a family of horses—including the produce of Volunteer, about forty in number—in which I have discovered such uniform adherence to certain peculiarities, all tracing to one mare. It makes no difference what the character or class of the sire—whether it be Hambletonian, or the sons of Mambrino Chief, Ashland and Mambrunello, or Surplus, or Thorndale, all widely different—the old mare asserts her absolute supremacy. Amazonia, in the produce of Abdallah, displays less individuality, and there is less uniformity in the descendants of Abdallah than there is likely to be in those of this Patriot mare. I do not hesitate to pronounce her the most positive and absolute in her physical and blood characteristics of any mare I ever saw. I do not believe there has ever lived in America a mare whose influence was more deeply stamped on her descendants, and likely to

extend to such numbers and for so many generations, as this same Lady Patriot.

Brilliant will be the page of turf history which, fifty years hence, shall record the prowess and performances of those who trace their distinctive characteristics to this mare. She reached the day when she might rightfully bear the chaplet of oak, and wear the wreath of laurel. Having survived the cares of a large family, and the detraction of many defamers, she lived to see her first-born occupy the proud position of first trotting stallion of America. Surely this is not the first instance in which that which was rejected and despised survived the obloquy and defamation of hateful prejudice, and lived to be assigned the seat of honor and renown; and those who spent so many years in branding her as worthless, and consigning her fair name to the place of the "rejected," may yet derive some satisfaction in beholding it written on the "chief stone of the corner."

#### SONS AND OTHER DESCENDANTS OF VOLUNTEER.

Hamlet, one of the oldest sons of Volunteer, was foaled in 1859, and his dam was by Hulse's Hickory, second dam by Bay Roman. He is a horse of great beauty and style—one of the finest in form in the Hambletonian family. He has spent several years in Kentucky, and has been regarded as a fine horse. He is sire of a mare that is said to have trotted in 2:25—not a record.

Wm. H. Allen was foaled in 1865, and has a record of 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ . His dam was the mare Peggy Slender, a mare that trotted in 2:55. She was of unknown blood. He is full sister to the mare Mary A. Whitney, with a record of 2:28. He is undoubtedly a superior horse, and has trotted twenty-five heats in 2:30 or better. He is owned in Connecticut.

Goldsmith's Abdallah was a very beautiful and blood-like horse. His dam was Martha, by Abdallah, second dam by a son of imp. Bellfounder. He was one of the finest representatives of the Abdallah blood ever seen. His head was well formed, large clear eye, ear long and sharp, limbs as clean and blood-like as were ever seen under a horse—long, slender neck, flat on the sides, and very narrow especially across the hips and in the hindquarters. He had a fine mane and tail, and was as kind a horse as was ever seen and one of the most intelligent. His keeper could direct and control him in a paddock by simple word of command without a bridle—perfectly obedient, and apparently comprehensive of every word of command. He had a

record of 2:30, and was killed at Paris, Ky., by colliding with John Bright, his full brother, while both were driven in harness, in opposite directions, through some mishap or inadvertence. Abdallah was much admired by all who knew him.

Young Volunteer, another son of Volunteer, is the sire of Jersey Boy, a gelding that in 1877 attained a record of 2:27, having trotted six heats in 2:30 or better.

Sterling, another son of Volunteer, has left some produce highly esteemed in the vicinity of Chicago and Racine. He is now in Kentucky, and owned by W. H. Wilson. He has a record of 2:34. His dam was by Bay Richmond.

John Bright, a full brother to Goldsmith's Abdallah, is in Kentucky, but has not been in the stud long enough to show any results that are distinctive.

Louis Napoleon was foaled in 1866, and is owned by Dewey and Stewart, Owosso, Michigan. His dam was Hattie Wood, by Sayer's Harry Clay, the dam of Idol and Gazelle, the latter the second in speed of the daughters of Hambletonian. He is beyond doubt a very superior stallion, and will take rank as one of the best of the Hambletonian family. As a breeder he already stands the first in his State, and in 1876 at the State Horse Breeders' Exhibition, in the State of Michigan, he and his produce were awarded first premiums over so great a stallion as Mambrino Gift. The published accounts of his stock and their appearance at that exhibition strongly indicated that he had risen to distinction as a sire at an early age.

When the success of Volunteer with daughters of Harry Clay is considered, as displayed in Bodine and St. Julien, and the well known superiority of Hattie Wood is also taken into account, this horse carries with him the promise of great success as a sire. His career will be looked to by the breeders of this country with much interest, and I venture the prediction that he takes high rank as a trotting stallion, although I have never seen him.

#### GRANDSONS OF VOLUNTEER.

Alexander is a bay stallion, with white heels; foaled 1868 by Goldsmith's Abdallah, dam by the son of Hungerford's Blucher, misnamed Richard's Bellfounder; second dam, Lady May, by Singleton's California Rattler. This horse is an elegant roadster and good producer; bred by Richard Richards, of Racine, Wis., and is owned by Messrs. DeGraff in Minnesota.

Hickory is a bay stallion, foaled in 1869, by Goldsmith's Abdallah, dam Dollabella, by the son of Hungerford's Blucher, above named; second dam by Farmer's Glory, a Canadian; was bred by Richard Richards, of Racine, Wis., and is owned by Geo. D. Doubleday, of Whitewater, Wis. He has a record of 2:30, and has trotted in 2:26. He is a good sire.

## DAUGHTERS OF VOLUNTEER.

Several of the daughters of Volunteer have been distinguished for speed on the trotting turf. One of them has produced the stallion Florida, which will form the subject of a separate sketch, and will not be noticed further in this chapter.

From another daughter Hambletonian has left us the young stallion Metropolitan, the second dam being the dam of Dexter, a daughter of American Star, and the third dam being the McKinstry mare, the dam of Shark, another distinguished son of Hambletonian. This horse now just entering on his career as a stallion will be looked to with much interest on account of the distinguished excellence of so many so nearly related and in the same immediate line of kinship. He should certainly display very high quality as a member of the Hambletonian family. And if the combination should fail to make him a great reproducer, it will present an enigma for the philosophical that will call for an explanation.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### FLORIDA.

THIS horse was foaled in 1867; was bred by Nathaniel Roe, of Florida, Orange county, N. Y., and was by Hambletonian, first dam by Volunteer. Beyond that, his pedigree has not been authenticated to my satisfaction. The *Trotting Register* says, his second dam was a brown mare, of unknown blood, brought from the West. I have been struck with the very great number of "brown mares that come from the West" which enter into Eastern pedigrees. I have seen the certificate of Mr. Roe, the breeder, that Florida's second dam was by the Welling Hambletonian; but all that I can say is, that while the *Trotting Register* is not infallible—the compiler giving his pedigrees upon the best information he can obtain, and being as liable to err as other men no less capable—the certificates of breeders are, in many instances, no more reliable. Mr. Roe has since had some misunderstanding with the present owner of Florida, and no information can be obtained from him. The Welling horse was by Hambletonian, dam by Shark, and the composition of Florida goes very far to indicate strong currents of just such blood, which, in a highly concentrated form, operate to stamp a very positive type on him and his produce.

Florida is a solid bay horse—not light bay nor brown—with black points, and no white whatever. He stands about 15 hands 3 inches, and weighs about 1,150 pounds; his head resembles, somewhat, that of Volunteer—not fine, nor in any sense coarse; he has a neck of medium length, and a windpipe 18 inches, which is 2 inches shorter than that of Volunteer; he is 3 inches shorter in length of body than Volunteer; has limbs almost the same length, the only difference being one-half inch from hip to hock; he is 39½ inches there, and 24 inches in thigh; 11 inches in front cannon, and 21 inches in forearm. In the triangle of the hindquarters he differs but little from Volunteer, being H 18, F 20, and G 27½. His croup stands high, and







he is high at the whirlbone and straight on the rump, with a strong Hambletonian appearance in his general form. There is nothing very striking in the outline and general form of the horse, except his strong Hambletonian caste of the smoother type. He is, in all respects, very compact, and his limbs smooth and of the best quality, with feet as good as any of his family. He has a good mane and tail, and carries himself in a quiet and business-like way, showing no signs of temper or intractability. In general outline he, perhaps, shows as much of the Bellfounder as any of the sons of Hambletonian; but his outward form and general appearance fall far short of portraying the depth and positiveness of this element as it exists in this horse. He is, in fact, the living Bellfounder of our day, and probably, since the advent to our shores of the imported Bellfounder, we have had no representative of his real character and merits that approaches so near the excellence and true type of the original as this horse Florida. If there be any other horse that can claim to be the nearest approach to the essential characteristics of Bellfounder, it is the horse Harry Clay, whose dam was a daughter of the celebrated Norfolk trotter. Many in this country have an inveterate, willfully obstinate prejudice against the Bellfounder blood and all that savors of it in name or quality. Some of these persons have had the means, and perhaps the capacity, of knowing better; but their low apparent estimate of this element is simply the result of sheer and pitiable prejudice. Such persons can not be looked to as those who will enlighten public sentiment or direct uninformed and inquiring minds. Another class, and a large one, noted for candor and a disposition to make honest inquiry, and who are therefore entitled to full consideration, do not properly appreciate this blood, because the ideas they have formed of it were derived from a knowledge of animals that did not come up to the highest standard of excellence; hence they do not accord to it the high estimate placed upon it by those who knew the original. The great trouble has been, that the representatives of Bellfounder which have come under their observation were lacking in the great qualities of that distinguished horse, or, if they possessed them, they were in a latent and concealed form, and hence they spoke not out of the great excellence he possessed.

In the West the greater part of the Bellfounder stock came from Brown's (or Ohio) Bellfounder, a son of Lady Alport by Mambrino. Now, it is a fact, that neither this horse nor any of his produce displayed the great qualities which distinguished his sire. I really doubt

whether Hambletonian in himself or any of his produce, beyond a very small number, show out with the true lustre of the Bellfounder type; and in those cases where the dams were mares of strong Bellfounder blood I do not believe the case was one particle improved. It is a fact in breeding, often encountered, that the union of two animals, somewhat unlike in their composition, results in a compound that lacks the lustre of both the originals, and a near reinforcement of the blood of the given animal does not call out the desired quality. But it is there, though deeply concealed, and in some remote or subsequent crosses, when the neutralizing force is also impaired and weakened, the original elements, long buried and lost to view, shine out in the richness and beauty of the original. I have studied the Bellfounder character much and closely, and have had some opportunities of seeing some of the bright phases of its radiance which, for so many years gone by, has seemed to charm the memory of those who intimately knew the old original.

Meet one of these people—and there are many very intelligent horsemen among them—and you can not persuade them that so grand a star has shone in the galaxy since the days of Bellfounder. But to my friends who have failed to find such excellence in the Bellfounder form and type, as it came before them, I must say, when I speak of the true Bellfounder character, I mean something more than a bay or brown in color, a good, kind, clever temper, and the roundabout form of that family—I mean the temperament, nerve force, mental organism, and all that enters into the character of the animal, beyond the physical, outward form in which he is clothed. I refer to the internal or nervous impulses that were only reflected in the outward actions and traits exhibited by the living and moving being.

We often see a man who, in stature and all that make up outward form, shows little resemblance to his own father. His form is different; his hair and eyes another color; his complexion is not the same. But when we enter into conversation with him, or observe him in the transaction of business, and behold the hourly mien and deportment of the man, we see the traces of the father at every turn. The voice, the accents, the nervous flashes and gestures—all that speak of the spirit and temperament within—tell of the image of the parent that dwells there. I can speak of a family of boys, two of whom possessed characteristics quite unlike the father or mother. One of the other sons, and the one who most of all resembled the father, had two sons, one of them possessing all the marked characteristics of the two

exceptional brothers. From whom did these two sons and the one grandson derive these qualities and characteristics, not exhibited by either of the parents? I answer, from the mother's grandfather on her own mother's side of the family. I answer this from actual knowledge of the facts; and it demonstrates that these qualities which characterized the two sons and one grandson were possessed by the mother and her own son, the father of the grandson; but they were not exhibited by either—they were latent, or concealed by other traits that shone out strongly in their respective characters. They came down by direct line of inheritance, but were latent, and did not come out in their positive manifestations until they went through certain changes that freed or eliminated them from other controlling or neutralizing elements, or until they met the exact conditions that enabled them to show their own force and character. Thus it often is with a trotting horse bred from two strong trotting elements, but somewhat unlike—the one neutralizes the other, and the true character and nerve force of each is controlled, withheld, and for a time suppressed and latent; but it will come out again, either when it receives a proper degree of reinforcement, or when the other controlling elements pass through certain changes which shall enable it to come to the surface. Of this I have seen several clear illustrations, and shall have some to present in this chapter.

It is quite probable that the true character and genius of Bellfounder did not shine out in Hambletonian. In the Charles Kent mare and Abdallah blood, elements met which had some positive ingredients of dissimilarity. Although there is good reason, founded on many facts that come to my mind, for believing that Bellfounder and Messenger had a kindred origin, they had run in channels so far apart as to acquire certain diversities of quality, and their union in Hambletonian did not at the same time furnish the conditions to call out in full force the expressive and distinctive qualities of each. Both were there, but they could not both shine out with original brilliancy. Subsequently, in Goldsmith Maid, the Abdallah blood rose to its zenith, and shines to-day with a light that tells us how much has long lain latent or hidden in the union of two bloods, whose brilliancy is often concealed by the very combination that is at the same time essential to the greatest fame and excellence of each. Thus it has been with this Bellfounder blood. Hambletonian was not a great success with mares strong in Bellfounder blood; but several of his sons have shown great success with mares remotely descended from

Bellfounder. The dams of Bodine, St. Julien, Gazelle, Prospero, Reform, and others that have been previously named, run back to Bellfounder, and in their success testimony is found to prove the out-lasting merit of this blood.

It is one of the noteworthy facts in breeding that in regard to several of the important sources from whence we have derived our trotting blood the original fountain did not seem to give us as rich and beautiful currents as those that have sprung from later or more diluted branches.

The native germ of excellence lay in the parent stock, but the most excellent manifestations of the blood are seen after it has been filtered through other forms and in part toned down or modified by other elements. It was so with the blood of Messenger. In itself, while it had two tendencies, the trotting inclinations had to be freed in a measure from their native combination with the Arab elements that were blended with them. His success as a trotting sire is seen best in his more remote descendants, since the alliance of his blood with the other trotting elements have eliminated its real trotting excellence and presented the same ready for acceptable use in any combination.

Likewise such was the case with Pilot the pacer. His blood was foreign and had to be naturalized by a commingling with that of the thoroughbred, after which it became an acceptable cross for any and all bloods which had original consanguinity with or toward the warm blooded families. Our experience with the blood of Bellfounder shows clearly that in its original form as presented fresh from the Norfolk trotter it possessed one element, a real drug that did not fuse readily in any combination. He was not, in his own immediate efforts in the introduction of his blood on this Continent, an absolute success. Tested by his first fruits, and the essential transmitting qualities his own descendants seemed to possess, he was a failure.

True, the Charles Kent mare was a trotter, and her power to transmit these qualities of the Bellfounder blood were enough to save him. The same may be said of the other daughter that produced Harry Clay. Something may also be said of like import of one or two others, but these were all out of twenty years service and a current popularity that surpassed any cotemporary stallion. Abdallah was unpopular—almost discarded—yet he left his powerful impress everywhere. Nevertheless of Bellfounder it may be said his success lies in the fact that he planted the germ, and in the later crosses of that blood its real force and value is coming out. I have no doubt that some of

the sons of Hambletonian will in breeding display the richer qualities of the Bellfounder blood in greater force than it was displayed by him. The only trotters he left from mares of that blood that attained any distinction are Gazelle, and James Howell Jr., and their dams were by Harry Clay. His sons have been more successful in the same union thus far than he was. He has left several entire sons who were strong in the blood of Bellfounder, but not one of them has yet produced a 2:30 trotter; Rysdyk's Bellfounder, Manhattan, Idol, Electioneer—not one son of Hambletonian and a mare of Bellfounder blood has yet produced a 2:30 trotter; and only two of his own produce from such mares have trotted in 2:30, excepting, of course, daughters of his own sons. On the other hand, Volunteer has produced Bodine 2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ , St. Julien 2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ , Goldsmith's Abdallah 2:30, his grandam being a mare of Bellfounder blood, and he has produced Hickory, 2:30. Messenger Duroc has produced Elaine, 2:28, three years old; Hogarth, 2:26, four years old; and Prospero, 2:20. Jay Gould has produced King Philip, 2:21; all from mares of that blood. Belmont, by Alexander's Abdallah, was from a mare of Bellfounder blood, and he has produced three trotters with records respectively 2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and 2:29. And one of the most promising two-year-olds by Almont was from a mare of similar composition. The value and true richness of the blood is now coming out in the more remote descendants, and that which has sustained so much of odium is now returning to the flood tide of popularity. To-day it is the ascending current in popular estimation. By its union with other bloods, and especially with what would seem to be its kindred blood in the Messenger family, it has eliminated from itself the gross and cold elements which came from some inferior English road stock, and has also by the alliance thrown into the back ground the Arab tendencies of the Messenger strains, and the fusion thus presented now displays its trotting quality and its prepotent breeding capacities in far greater degree than they were seen in the first or original combinations. The dam of Florida having so much of this blended Messenger and Bellfounder character has presented in Florida an exact medium or intermediate between Hambletonian and Volunteer. He is much like each.

Volunteer has been acknowledged by all to show more in his outward form and appearance of the Bellfounder type than any of the older sons of Hambletonian, which is, perhaps, owing to the fact that in the composition of his dam those conditions appeared that were

required for calling into active force the essential Bellfounder elements; but in the dam of Florida, a daughter of this same Volunteer, were found still more nearly the essential conditions requisite to call into action the nerve force, temperament, physical and mental characteristics of the Bellfounder horse, as we have nowhere else seen them since the days of the original and greatly admired Norfolk trotter. I have seen in Kentucky a two-year-old—the Cromwell filly—by Almont, the grandam of which was by Bellfounder Jr., a son of the Ohio Bellfounder, that displayed in living colors the genuine Bellfounder type, as shown in a gait that will some day call to mind memories of the old Norfolk trotter, and at the same time will shine out with an original brilliancy in a new constellation that has appeared in the galaxy since his star went beneath the horizon. To an eye that has learned to revel in the excellence of this most lovely of trotting gaits, it is no rare sight to witness an exact and faithful exhibition of it at the rate of 2:40, in a two-year-old filly. Marvelous indeed must have been the high qualities of that sire that could, in his daughter, Goldsmith Maid, exhibit the purity and elastic richness of the finer Abdallah gait, and in his granddaughter, through the interposition of a remote cross, reproduce the genuine Bellfounder gait in all its nervous richness, and exhibiting a poise of body, and a steady, quick, and almost flying stroke, scarcely seen since the days of the great original. But such are the mysterious phantasies of this breeding business, that the rich veins of pure gold, long concealed by processes that we do not understand, suddenly come out in strata where least expected.

When I first saw Florida, during the month of January, 1876, I found him, at first sight, to be the plain and unassuming horse that I have described. By the term plain, however, I do not mean coarse, or lacking in good form. He was simply good all over, but unpretentious. He was plainly without fault, except that, for his breeding, I thought him rather light in his hindquarter; but a close measurement satisfied me that this appearance was deceptive. He has a good sized hock, and flat hind legs, and the largest knees and best forearm I have found anywhere. He is good-natured and quiet, and shows no signs of ill temper. He was unshod, and, from appearances, I should say had been so for a month or two, running loose in a small enclosure attached to his stable, going out and in at pleasure. He showed no trace of extra care or high keeping. His owner offered to have him shod, and show me his gait on my return the day following. I did

not return for ten days, and then came in the rain and sleet, when the ground was covered with ice and snow. I can not say what preparation the horse may have had for a show of speed, but should suppose none whatever. Standing by the roadside, with my umbrella over my head, I saw a man mount his bare back, with nothing on but a bridle, and, on the public highway, for a space of about 1,000 feet, up and down an icy road, partly covered with snow, and in the worst possible state for such a trial, I saw such a display of speed and ready trotting action as I have not witnessed anywhere else. I must do justice to all; but I must say that this horse has all the qualities of a genuine race-horse, and seems ready at all times for a trot that would be hard to surpass. Although the road was uneven, and the horse slipped for many feet at a time in places, he certainly showed me a gait equal to 2:30 or better, and under a state of circumstances that, to my mind, was most convincing that he was a genuine trotter. To describe his gait is a task of some difficulty. It is the same in its form and type as that of the Cromwell filly, above referred to. It is a rapid gait—consisting of rapid motions—does not appear to be far-reaching or dwelling, but all the feet are picked up rapidly, thrown out from the body slightly sidewise, and come down with a sharp, chopping stroke, much calling to mind the motion of the prairie chicken, or other short-winged birds, in their flight in a straight line from the beholder. Standing front or rear you seem to see all the feet in the air at once, but not at great elevation; and the body rocks, or sways, gently and very slightly, and goes forward like an arrow from a bow. The motion is sharp, quick and vigorous, but not violent or demonstrative. It seems to involve more muscular action of the limbs and body than the Abdallah gait, but not so great an expenditure of power or outlay of strength as the Clay or Patchen gait. To the eye it is a motion that is full of rapture and beauty. The horse seems to go on short wings, but with a wonderfully steady motion, in a straight line, and with perfect poise of body. The Abdallah gait seems to be one that you can best see as it passes alongside the beholder, or as it recedes gently in the distance while passing. The real poetry of the Bell-founder gait must be seen while the animal is approaching or going from you. It is then you can best see his stifles and elbows in true line, and all four of his feet seemingly in the air at the same time, and you can see the lines of his hocks and elbows, and those of his fore and hind feet, all at the same time and in perfect line. When thus seen, the trotter is a piece of machinery rarely excelled in any



department of mechanical skill. But no pen can describe such motions, they must be seen and attended to with a close and discriminating eye to be appreciated.

An Illinois gentleman whom I know very well and who has studied horses somewhat as I have studied them, and whose estimate of a horse would go very far with me, recently went East, and while there saw this horse Florida. He had been somewhat prepossessed in his favor, and had talked with me about him, but wanted to see for himself. He found the horse kept as he is for service and but little used in harness, and in fact, from information had received the notion that the owner of Florida did not often show him in harness, which excited a desire to see him in that way. His letter tells the result as well as it can be expressed. He says :

Florida was put in harness, as Mr. Taylor said, the first time since October (six months), and his performance was truly wonderful. I think to a wagon of at least 275 pounds with Mr. T. and myself in, he showed us close to a thirty gait, and I am confident he drew us up a steep hill without a hitch at a fifty gait. I certainly never rode after or saw a horse that seemed to be so perfectly ignorant of everything but trot. In passing a crowd of boys he started as if to run away and Mr. T. gave him his head, but he kept his square trot without a sign of a break. What surprised me most was his freedom from all nervous excitement and perfect readiness to sail through; his great delight seemed to be to trot, and the faster the better. I rode after three of his sons, and I assure you they are worthy sons of a noble sire.

His way of going would charm any lover of the trotting horse, and it seems to be utterly impossible to drive him to a break or even a hitch, and his greatest delight seemed to be in his most rapid flight, while with a word he would come to a quiet walk with all the docility of a lamb, and seemed to be the very horse you would first select to trust your wife or daughter with. Much as this horse is admired in the stable, or when shown at the halter, his great qualities can only be appreciated by those who are fortunate enough to see him at full speed.

I may say here that, to my mind, the Bellfounder conformation is one that evinces great muscular power in small compass and at the right place. For trotting purposes, the muscle is hung at the proper point, and has the most complete use of the machinery to be wielded by it. While mares by Sayer's Harry Clay have been a success with the Hambletonian stallions, it must be kept in mind that they belong to the long-leverage family, invariably, so far as I have inspected them, showing a very long measurement from hip to hock—one four-year-old by Volunteer, second dam by Harry Clay, being 41 inches, and a mare by Hambletonian, dam by Harry Clay, being 41½ inches,

Bodine, dam by Harry Clay, 41 inches, and thus, generally. Now, while there is in those of that conformation a tendency toward a dwelling gait, and an appearance of great expenditure of power, when this cross is coupled with two crosses of the Bellfounder blood, the limb is gathered up in time for the fast rates of a Bodine, a St. Julien, a Gazelle or Prospero. Hence it would seem that the long lever had, in this case, the master muscle to propel it.

From all the study I have been able to give the subject, I am persuaded that the family conformation and measurement of the Bellfounder and that of the Messengers and Abdallahs differed very slightly, which is also a proof of their kinship. I incline to the opinion, that the Bellfounder leverage was somewhat longer than that of Abdallah, but in like proportion. From all that I can gather, after many examinations, I am satisfied the Abdallah type was 39—23, and that Hambletonian (himself a little larger) breeds back to that type, even in the first cross. That the in-bred Hambletonians will, and do, go back toward the Abdallah standard in many particulars, I have already shown. Gov. Sprague's measurement, 39—23 $\frac{1}{4}$ , is to the same effect, and settles the question, if there ever was any question, as to his dam being by Hambletonian. But the strongest instance is that of Strader's C. M. Clay, from a long-limbed grandsire and an Abdallah mare, the latter controlling both as to measurement and as to gait—a total departure from the early Clay standard—and his measure is 39—23. Such a fact proves the prepotency of the Abdallah blood, notwithstanding it is true that he yielded so much of the form of Hambletonian to Bellfounder.

There can be no doubt that if Florida was taken from the stud and trained he would make a stallion among the fastest, and perhaps equal to any that Hambletonian has produced. His produce that have come under my inspection leave in my mind the belief, also, that he will prove an impressive sire, especially when mated with mares of kindred blood, as those belonging to the Hambletonian family. He has none, I believe, older than six years, and I have been informed that they showed his image and characteristics, without one exception. I have not seen a lot of stock, the produce of one horse, that bore more of the impress of the sire than I have seen in those of the get of Florida that have come under my notice—above twenty-five in number. From the apparent speed and ready trotting action of the yearlings and two-year-olds of the produce of Florida, I should say he gives evidence that he will produce early trotters. The three points of his

character that seem to stand out clearly and above all others, to my mind, are: First, his strong traits of the Bellfounder blood, both as seen in his form and in his gait, manner of acting and going, his temperament and entire nerve organization. Secondly, for the genuine trotting quality, inclination or capacity, whatever it may be styled, he stands out, in his own family and in all other of our American trotting families, with a distinction rarely reached and hardly excelled anywhere. Thirdly, his intense positiveness and impressive concentration of quality, and consequent ability to impart it to his produce. His in-breeding would tend to make him an impressive sire—and of really impressive sires, of strong and positive individuality, we have had very few.

It must be conceded that Hambletonian was not a really impressive sire in all his matings. Volunteer and many of his sons surpass him. The reason of this is found in the fact that the Bellfounder blood in him was in a form too crude; it did not readily assimilate with the other combinations into which it entered. The Duroc-Messenger blood was one that fused with everything. Volunteer was a remote Duroc-Messenger, and his composition presented the blood of Bellfounder in a form more completely assimilated than was to be found in many of his older sons. The daughter of Volunteer carried the process of assimilation still further, and in Florida we have a stallion that presents the elements of Messenger and Bellfounder in better combination than they were presented in Hambletonian, the original sire, including also a strain of Duroc, very slight, while the Bellfounder is very strong and positive. He will be more impressive as a sire than Hambletonian; whether he will attain to the real greatness of Hambletonian must depend on many circumstances, and is yet to be ascertained. He is certainly one of great promise.

#### HIS SONS.

Montgomery, now five years old, is a horse of considerable merit. His dam was by Hambletonian; 2d dam by Liberty. He shows his in-breeding in his strong Hambletonian caste. He is owned by A. D. Peeler, of Binghamton, New York.

George H. Low is five years old. His dam was Mary Hunter, by Guy Miller, son of Hambletonian; 2d dam by Friday. He is owned in Michigan, and is said to greatly resemble his sire.

New York Sun is five years old, and supposed to be a rising sun in the breeding and trotting firmament. His dam is by Billy Denton,

son of Hambletonian; 2d dam by Abdallah. With such a pedigree he ought to outshine even his distinguished namesake. He trotted as a four-year-old in 2:35. He is owned by William C. Edge, of Newark, N. J.

McCrea, also five years old, dam by Royal George, is owned in Colorado.

Hambleton, now three years old, dam by Hambletonian; 2d dam by Hickory; is said to be a very fine and highly promising trotter. His close in-breeding will be apparent, but he may be very positive as a sire. I should prefer a further remove from the parent stock.

William Fullerton Jr. is four years old, and is from a mare by Strader's Cassius M. Clay. He closely resembles his sire, as do all the colts of Florida in great measure. He is a fast and promising colt, and is owned by J. C. Warr, of Wareham, Mass.

Arlington, now four years old, is from a mare called Morning Glory, by imported Consternation, and said to be a thoroughbred. This colt is large and very blood-like and handsome, and his trotting quality has already been shown to be very great. He has shown speed, and a gait that gives promise of making a trotter. If such should be the fact, it will be eminently suggestive of the question whether the blood of Bellfounder in Florida has not gone through the process of naturalization so far as to make it available for mares that come from thoroughbred families. The career of this colt will be looked to with interest by those who know of his early promise. He is owned by Joseph Williamson, of Staten Island.

Exton Abdallah is a colt, now three years old, owned by R. P. Helm, Lake county, Ill. His dam was Henrietta, by Roe's Abdallah Chief; 2d dam by Exton Eclipse. Henrietta was a superior mare, dam of Allen C. Patchen and several other good ones. This colt looks much like Florida in front, but is more of a cat-hammed Abdallah behind. His action is very superior, and he shows a strong adherence to the trotting gait.

I will only add that I have seen no son of Hambletonian whose form and ways were more apparent or more clearly impressed on his colts than is that of Florida on those descended from him.

## CHAPTER IX.

### ADMINISTRATOR.

ADMINISTRATOR was foaled in 1863, bred by Elijah Woolsey, of New Paltz, Ulster county, N. Y., who owned and kept him in that mountainous county until he was ten years old, when he was sold to his present owner, Col. Geo. F. Stevens, of Ilion, New York. His pedigree is given as follows: By Hambletonian, first dam by Mambrino Chief; second dam by Arabian Tartar; third dam by Duroc Messenger, and he by a son of Duroc, dam by Bush Messenger, a son of imp. Messenger—the blood of the sire of the first dam and that of the third dam being the only ones well known. He is a large and very compact horse, and weighs 1,210 lbs. He is in color a rich, glossy brown—almost black—and late in the season shows a very neat display of bay or wine color about the muzzle and flanks. He stands full sixteen hands high, but has not the appearance of a tall horse. His head is clean, bony, and well shaped—not like that of Hambletonian, and only having a slight resemblance to that of the Mambrino Chief family, from which his dam came. His head, as well as his body and limbs, has no element of coarseness, but shows strong and positive outlines, and has by some been called fine, but I should style it a very good rather than a very fine head. It has the width of forehead, depth of brain, and clear, prominent eye, that mark the family of Abdallah. His jaws and throat are as fine and clear as could be asked, and his ear is a thin and well-set one; and a neck of handsome length, carrying his head at a proper angle, gives him as fine a forward appearance as could be desired by the most fastidious. His picture that accompanies this sketch, will convey a very accurate idea of his high form and very commanding appearance. He is stately and positive in character, as would be inferred from the portrait. His shoulder and body are as good, strong and even formed, for a horse of such great compactness and solid mould, as can be found anywhere; and he



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stands uprightly and squarely on his legs. His hind leg is a little straighter, but otherwise not unlike that of Hambletonian, and the thigh is noticeably long, and very powerful; quarters very heavy, and the great muscle coming down within twelve inches of the hock. His outer muscle on the second thigh or gaskin is noticeably large and prominent; but the great excellence of his conformation of the hindquarters lies in the distribution of the muscular combination from the hips and croup all the way down the quarters and thighs, and that absence of massing of muscle above the second thigh, at the expense of other portions of his rear frame work. His rump runs out even and full, and his whirlbone is located high—which holds the seat of power for trotting purposes in even and thorough distribution throughout. His gait and manner of going is controlled in great part by this more elevated placing of his muscular combination, holding the propelling centers at a range nearer to the hip and whirlbone, and, by reason of his great expanse of flank room, completely controlling his way of going, and giving him a gait entirely different from what his long thigh and strong Duroc outline would otherwise have fastened upon him. And right here is the point of study in his composition which is the fullest of instruction, and worthy of our closest consideration.

His dam was by Mambrino Chief, whose dam may be set down as a granddaughter of Duroc. His third dam was by Duroc Messenger, a grandson of Duroc. This gives this horse two crosses of Duroc blood, which is visible in only one particular in his entire composition. He has a thigh  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, but has scarcely a trace of the Duroc element in his gait. Instead of swinging his hocks wide out, and trotting with a sprawling, wide, open gait, as it is called, he trots as close and true as Lady Thorn with her 23-inch thigh. His length from hip to hock, for so large a horse, is not great— $39\frac{1}{2}$  inches—but he lifts his feet up squarely, and spreads out his stifle, and sets each foot forward as truly in line as any son of Hambletonian in the land. This is entirely owing to the muscular conformation of his quarters, and their great proportions, and particularly the great length of the lines H and G, which shows his comparative size and room from stifle to hip, and from stifle to the outer muscular covering of the whirlbone. His measurement in the triangle of the hindquarter is as follows: H 19, F 21, G 30, which, it will be observed, is precisely the same as Hambletonian's. His flank room is ample, and his muscle so works as to throw his stifle out wide, and yet his hocks are not



widened enough to give him the appearance of a sprawler. His gait for a large horse is greatly admired and approved by all horsemen. This is contrary to the average Duroc characteristics, which generally are found in a flank of insufficient depth, and muscles so apportioned as to either beat the belly with the stifles, or go with a wide, open gait. A gait of fair and reasonable width is desirable for clean, non-interfering action, but beyond that it is objectionable. In trotting he throws his feet well out in front, and bends his knees admirably without lifting them too high, and his hind feet extend well backward, but not so noticeably as in the Clay and Patchen families generally; while the steady and powerful stroke with which they are brought up under his body and sent forward, gives him the momentum of a very powerful trotter; yet for all that, his way of going betokens the greatest ease. The muscles of the body and of the limbs and quarters work in such perfect harmony as to secure this easy and steady appearance in his trotting action.

While it is true that his double lines of Duroc blood are not the controlling elements in his composition, the real force and value of that blood is present in him in as rich a combination as can anywhere be found in this country. He is, in fact, my *beau idéal* of a Duroc-Messenger. The three elements of his composition—Messenger, Duroc, and Bellfounder—are so finely inwrought and so completely blended as to form a perfect and homogeneous union, and work together in entire harmony and in the exuberance of the most absolute healthfulness. Not an infirm trait or tendency is manifest in him.

He is a great, strong horse, positive in his Messenger characteristics. He has that ready fusible and ever affiliating caste which distinguishes the union of the Messenger and Duroc bloods.

He has also the rich qualities of the Bellfounder blood in a form and degree where they are more readily reached and applied—more yielding and fusible perhaps than they existed in Hambletonian himself. The composite of the first two bloods formed the truest and most suitable soil in which to reproduce the best fruits from the more uncertain and unyielding Bellfounder. While a Duroc-Messenger mare may not have been the equal of a Bellfounder in genuine trotting quality, such a mare would have furnished a field far more yielding and fruitful to the impress of any other blood. It was notably a union that readily impressed all other bloods and as readily swallowed them up in any composition into which they all entered. We have never had an element in the American trotting horse that was so uni-

versally successful in uniting with any and all other bloods—in imparting richness to them, and in receiving all their good qualities—as this same union of Duroc and Messenger. The Bellfounder blood was a coy element. It had no readiness for other strains, and it was not until it was filtered through distant and remote crossings that its dross was so far eliminated as to give us its pure gold, but when that state was reached, no gold of Ophir or the Sierra Nevada ever shone with such a radiance and enduring lustre.

The strong Duroc-Messenger caste of the dam of Administrator was the field of more than alluvial fertility to the pent-up excellences of Hambletonian.

The excellence of the union of the blood of Duroc and Messenger for trotting purposes was seen at an early day in the Eastern States. Duroc was taken to Long Island at a time when the daughters of Messenger were very abundant. The success of American Eclipse as a race-horse justified the opinion that they would excel on that branch of the turf. The large number of such mares that were sent to Duroc, and the early promise of the union for road purposes, served to make the cross a popular one. Stevens' Messenger Duroc, and Stockholm's American Star, were both used for racing purposes at an early age, and both gave evidence of special adaptation to the trotting gait and of great excellence for road purposes. The former stood in the central portions of the State of New York, and gave us the dam of Mambrino Chief—a matter of which there can be hardly any reasonable doubt in the mind of the student of horse breeding, who carefully and fairly considers the matter of locality, chronology and blood qualities in the respective families.

The latter, known as the first American Star, from a daughter of the little Diomed horse, Henry, son of Sir Archy, gave us Seely's American Star. The grandam being by Messenger, the essential Duroc characteristics are in this family slightly modified, both by the Henry cross and the increased Messenger, but the Duroc-Messenger caste and type in the family prevails in such strong degree as to give the whole or predominant character to the family, even to the descendants of Hambletonian, that have come from Star mares—they are essentially Duroc-Messenger in their type qualities, both in matter of gait and blood traits.

The high trotting quality of the Duroc-Messenger blood is displayed in eminent degree in the various branches of the families thus descended. They are bold and free drivers, going with a ready, open

and sweeping stride. They display their readiness for the trotting gait at a very early age, never lacking for courage and resolution, and showing much less nervous intractability than many other families. They bear early training, and can be forced to the utmost displays of speed with an ease and a freedom from excitement shown by few families. They display a total absence of that hotheadedness which characterizes some otherwise valuable strains. While they require but little of the lash, they will bear it, and let out the last links they possess. These qualities render the Duroc-Messenger a class that bear training early, hence the earliness of their fame as trotters. They excel in the class of two and three-year-old performers. Their courage and pluck in the severe contests of a race never fail, and the name of quitter can not with any degree of propriety be applied to them. They are also distinguished for the success of this blood when crossed with other stock that are totally deficient in trotting action. The produce of stallions from this cross on thoroughbred and other highly bred mares is often marked in high degree.

The original union was that of two thoroughbred strains, and produced in that union superior roadsters.

Stevens' Messenger Duroc was by Duroc, from Vincenta, a thoroughbred daughter of Messenger, and he was a roadster of great excellence, and exhibited qualities of a horse for harness and road purposes of the highest order. Stockholm's American Star was bred in like manner, and his dam was claimed to be a thoroughbred, although the pedigree can not be shown. He was both a runner and a trotter, and a noted horse at both gaits. The fame of the second or Seely's American Star and his family, is of the first order; and linked with the descendants of Hambletonian, the cross has for a long period shone as a star of the first magnitude.

The real greatness of Administrator furnishes another useful chapter in the lesson so often to be learned in the science of breeding and so often presented in this work—that of making radical and important changes from original conditions of great dissimilarity.

The blood of Messenger and that of Duroc had only one original element of similarity, and that was the Arabic or racing quality, which was not only foreign but opposed to all trotting tendencies.

In the Duroc blood there was no trotting quality whatever, except that from the Medley cross he had inherited a physical conformation that furnished a suitable scion upon which to engraft trotting tendencies and instincts. The latter existed in Messenger in intimate and close union with his thoroughbred or racing characteristics.

Bellfounder had no element of real consanguinity with either of these Arab strains unless it was in the distant back ground and behind a barrier of cold blooded and entirely unfamiliar and antagonistic material. There was no difficulty in the two former affiliating and forming a union, on the breeder's familiar basis of consanguinity, but the latter could only be reached after a process of naturalization, or dilution. The Messenger blood had perhaps some familiarity with it in their probable descent from a common ancestor in part, through the blood of Sampson. But the gulf was too wide, if the union must be effected between the three bloods in their originally pure state.

The Bellfounder blood did not familiarize with any strictly thoroughbred family. The advance must be gradual, and it must be mutual.

The Duroc-Messenger union must be in the form of a part-bred or road stock toned down to the trotting level, and the Bellfounder strain must have gone through a similar course in the channels furnished by Abdallah and the Kent mare, and presented in Hambletonian.

In Administrator the results of this series of gradual naturalizing or affiliating processes find their complete success. He is to-day the embodiment of the combined excellences of these three great strains, with their opposing and unfriendly tendencies and inclinations completely eliminated. Every law of breeding science declares that by all the greatness of Messenger, by all the excellences of Duroc, and all the golden treasures of Bellfounder, Administrator shall be, and is, a great and successful sire of roadsters and trotters. That the verdict shall be according to the law so plainly written, is to-day regarded as a matter of absolute popular belief, fast approaching a demonstrated certainty.

I have in this chapter and elsewhere spoken of the excellences of the Duroc blood when united with that of Messenger for trotting purposes. I rank it as the best and only strain of pure blood that has shown any special adaptation to the purposes of the trotting families in union with that of Messenger; but I would have it kept clearly in mind, that it is only in union with that great and all-prevailing trotting element that it gives any such character. It had of itself no trotting instinct or inclination whatever, and its serious and deep-seated infirmities were such as to debar it from any combination in which these traits could not be effectually or materially overcome. The Messenger blood was noted for such inborn purity and genuine healthfulness, that it, of all others, was best calculated to give health

and soundness to a combination with an element whose tendencies were so strongly toward unsoundness.

The Bellfounder blood was also one of rare health and vigor, and free from all hereditary taint, such as that which came down in the blood of Diomed. But these two magical bloods have not always been successful in effacing the infirm tendencies of the Duroc blood. Bad hocks, spavins, curbs and ringbones sometimes come out and mar the excellences of the most promising embodiment of these three great trotting constituents.

But in this matter of sound and powerful hocks, in the stallion Administrator and in all of his produce, it must be conceded that the Messenger, Abdallah and Bellfounder bloods have completely triumphed over any and all infirm tendencies of the Duroc blood.

His hocks can not be surpassed in strength, form or soundness; and in all I have seen of his produce of full age, two-year-olds, yearlings and young foals, I have not seen or heard of an unsound, defective or ill-formed hock in the whole number. He is now in Kentucky, where breeders have had such opportunities for studying bad hocks that they do not overlook them in the produce of a horse that can command the full limit of eighty mares before the expiration of his season, if any such defects exist. His feet, while large, are not the broad, flat feet of the original Messenger Duroc pattern, nor are they in any degree of the soft and fragile texture which marked the get of that horse, and many of the Mambrino Chief family. In all these particulars the inherent soundness of the Messenger and Bellfounder blood has asserted its full sway, and his broad, flat legs and general soundness are apparent to the most casual observer. His body is evenly formed throughout, and of the most muscular pattern. His perfection of health and soundness in every part is shown in this, that at the age of thirteen years he began his season in the stud weighing 1,210 lbs., and on the first day of July, after securing eighty-one mares, which, with the returns for service—not a large proportion—amounted to a service of nearly one hundred times, he weighed just 1,200 lbs., in my presence; and, furthermore, could at any period of this time show a 2:30 gait. No horse that did not possess constitutional power of the very highest order could approach this capacity. He spent the first ten years of his life in a way not to encourage the belief that he could ever show or attain to speed. But in two years after passing into the hands of Col. Stevens he trotted a full mile inside of 2:35, and this at the close of a heavy year's ser-

vice. This was a performance well worthy the two great trotting bloods from which he comes.

It must not be inferred or understood from this that he has undergone any special training for the purposes of speed. The marked improvement in the horse has been simply the result of good care—perhaps as good as any horse could have—and regular exercise, with such practice at the trotting gait as could be secured for a stallion doing so large a service as has fallen to his fortune since he went to his present home in Kentucky. It is one of the features of the Duroc blood in some compositions that it can not endure the amount of work necessary to bring it to the highest mark of superiority in performance. But this is not the case with Administrator. His strains of that blood are so remote and so interwoven with those that are always ready for hard usage that he revels in constant and severe use. That this excellence will also distinguish his produce is now made certain by the successful performance of such as have attained age enough to appear in public contests on the road or track.

Although his career in the stud has been a brief and an interrupted one, the first fruits are beginning to appear, and give not only ample but superabundant proofs of his great superiority as a sire, and stamp him as the great Duroc-Messenger-Bellfounder stallion of this generation. Should his career close to-day, the verdict of the next quarter of a century would be that he was a great stallion.

His stock are almost uniformly bays and browns, with an occasional grey. The following extract may be taken as authoritative in regard to some of the full-aged produce of this horse:

Administrator was taken to Kentucky, and made his first season there in 1874, previous to which he had been kept in the mountainous regions of Ulster county, N. Y., where there is but little stock bred, except for farm use, and hence he was but little known, and had no access to well-bred mares, and but few of any kind. His colts are, therefore, limited in number; but, nevertheless, the few that have been trained have all shown themselves very speedy. Previous to 1874, the only one of his get that had ever been trained was Inez. She, as a five-year-old, made a trial at Fleetwood in 2:31, when she was sold, and has since been kept for road use. Walden Maid was placed in training in the spring of 1874, and in May of the same year won the 2:50 purse at Fleetwood Park, making a record of 2:35 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Saul was trained for a short time the same season, and, at Poughkeepsie, made a record, in the four-year-old purse, of 2:46 $\frac{1}{2}$ . He was in training again, the past season, for about two months, and was driven a trial, timed by several persons, in 2:33 $\frac{3}{4}$ , which was improved upon a few days later, making his mile upon the Poughkeepsie track in 2:28. He won the five-year-old purse given by the Hudson River

Driving Park Association for all five-year-olds owned or bred in any county bordering on the Hudson river, without making a better record than 2:41½. Undine, another five-year-old, not broken to single harness until August last, won the Dutchess county five-year-old purse, making a record of 2:45½; and a few days after made a record, at Poughkeepsie, in 2:42½. She soon after made a public trial on the same track in 2:37¼. Aldine, her mate and full sister, was also unbroken single until the past season, and was not driven to harness until August. She has never been in a race, but was driven with Undine to pole, in 2:43¼, with the greatest ease. Owosso, a handsome and blood-like brown stallion, also by Administrator, with his first training, the past season, of about two months, could show better than a 2:28 gait. He has never been in but one race, which he won without making a better record than 2:47. This horse is very fast for his handling, and gives promise of great speed. William, with three weeks' training, showed a mile in 2:38 on a half-mile track. He has not been in training the past season, but was driven by his owner over the Poughkeepsie track, to top buggy, in 2:41. Ulster is a bay stallion of great natural speed. He has been in training but a few weeks since closing a season in the stud, which enables him to show about 2:40. Windsor, Enchanter, Administrator Jr., Midnight, Ulster Maid, and many others, without training other than road use, show great natural speed, and help to strengthen the very general prediction of those who are best acquainted with Administrator, his history and his produce, that he is destined soon to occupy a very high position among the most prominent of American trotting sires.

In addition to the above, I may say that, having some information in regard to the quality and blood of the mares from which the above were mainly produced, I am able to place the heavy credit to the side of the sire. Some of the mares had crosses of Mambrino Chief, and some had the blood of Mambrino Paymaster, and in some instances they had additional Duroc crosses, but the quality of the sire's blood was evinced in his complete triumph over all special Duroc tendencies, as exhibited in every one of the above list. Many of the same have been subjected to hard usage and abuse from reckless drivers, and have sustained injuries, but in spite of such hindrances they are said to be a credit to any sire.

From what I have seen of his produce, and from the speed that his colts have attained already, under most adverse circumstances, I have great confidence in the success of this horse with Kentucky-bred mares, and particularly those that are highly bred and at the same time strong in the Mambrino Chief blood.

I should, in this connection, deem it proper to say more in regard to that blood, and its special excellences in a trotting family, but for the fact that I shall not overlook that branch of this most interesting field when I reach it in proper order, as I shall very soon. Then will

my high estimate of the composition of this excellent stallion be more clearly understood and more fully appreciated.

Four years ago (1874) this horse was taken to Kentucky, and at once assumed a front rank in the estimation of Kentucky breeders. They had become familiar with the excellence of the Mambrino Chief family, and had already witnessed the advantages of uniting that blood with the Hambletonian strains, which, though coming from the common parentage of Messenger, had acquired some marked points of difference. This horse, in his rare combination of these two famed bloods, and in his own commanding size and form, presenting such a noble specimen of the two families in one, at once acquired great popularity, and has each year received the full limit of seventy-five or eighty mares, to which he has been restricted by his owner. I first saw his weanlings in the month of October, 1874, (bred in New York), one of which sold at public sale for \$500—not quite ninety days old. In these times, when prices are depressed, and the country is full of stock, it is only the good ones that call for such appreciation. I have since seen one of his fillies, not forty days old, for which \$600 had been offered.

As before stated, the first season of Administrator in Kentucky was made in 1874. Other stallions that rank in the first class were then there in the zenith of a brilliant fame, and it is not certain that Administrator for that or the next season received the class of mares that his high qualities deserved. In October, 1877, he had some colts to exhibit, at the great annual meeting of the Kentucky Trotting Horse Breeders' Association, which is one of the great events of the American trotting turf.

A correspondent of the *National Live Stock Journal*, who is unknown to me, in giving a report of the event, says:

I feel warranted in claiming a part of your valuable space for recording the most wonderful five days trotting meeting ever held in the West, as from it your readers will learn, that the fastest mile ever trotted in America by a yearling, a two-year-old and a four-year-old, and the fastest fourth heat by a three-year-old, were all made by colts and fillies bred, foaled, raised and trained in the blue grass region of Kentucky. I know it is contrary to your custom to give detailed reports of the trotting meetings held throughout the country; yet, as the above meeting shows such rapid development and remarkable speed in the young trotters, it certainly deserves more than a casual mention. The meeting was held at Lexington, Ky., on the course of the Kentucky A. and M. fair grounds, and commenced October 9, 1877.

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The event of the second day and of the meeting was the performance of



Memento, a yearling filly by Administrator, dam by Alexander's Abdallah. She was one of the six entries in a trot of half-mile heats, for a purse of \$450, given by Col. Geo. F. Stevens, for yearlings, the get of his horse, Administrator. The colts were all large and well developed, and exhibited fine bursts of speed and powers of endurance. R. S. Strader's bay filly Memento, won both heats; time, 1:38—1:30½; with Cooper and Withers' bay colt Pertinax, dam by Donerail, second, and W. H. Murphy's gray colt Gray Jim, dam by Norman, third. After this race was finished, Col. Strader placed his famous driver, Bowerman, weighing 153 lbs., in a regulation sulky behind Memento, with Tip Bruce's Red Crook to press her. The timers, Mr. David Bonner and Dr. L. Herr, proclaimed the full mile trotted in 2:56¾; the best performance by far ever made by a yearling.

In company with many others, we question the propriety of pushing colts so young; yet Memento came in fresh, and from her precocious maturity may not be hurt by this trial. The performances of this and other colts of Administrator added greatly to the favor in which he is held in Central Kentucky. Rysdyk's Hambletonian and Mambrino Chief, by mingling their blood in Administrator, have given to him the best qualities of both; and he, nicked with a daughter of Alexander's Abdallah, has produced the best filly, in form and speed, we have ever seen behind a sulky. If 2:14 is to be eclipsed, I think Administrator and George Wilkes are the stallions that now have the finest prospects of wearing the laurels as the sire of the coming wonder.

The same correspondent further says:

At the close of the race, October 13th, Col. Geo. F. Stevens permitted Administrator to trot a mile, for a wager of \$100. The wager was, that he could not trot that distance in 2:35 or better. Administrator made the trial and beat the time by two seconds, trotting in 2:33. This, I think, shows well for an untrained horse, just out of the stud.

The above items are so authoritative, as a testimonial in favor of the correctness of the views herein advanced, that I present them as I find them.

I may say that I now have advices from Kentucky to the effect that this very remarkable filly is not to be allowed to rest on the laurels she has thus so auspiciously won; that another by the same sire and of her own age will probably try conclusions with her at the coming meeting of the same association. She is said to be a two-year-old of great promise.

The popularity of this stallion now seems to have reached its zenith. No greater reputation could be desired for any animal than he now enjoys among the Kentucky breeders, and the class of mares he is receiving and the health and vigor he maintains, warrant the estimate that he will not be far surpassed, if surpassed at all, by any stallion of our day—a period that can show a greater degree of merit in trotting stallions in large number than any that has preceded it.

If we look for great excellence in any line of breeding, there is certainly much to commend to our favorable consideration a large and powerful animal, so perfect and faultless as the subject of the present sketch, when he is also the best and most perfect combination and union of the two families that have given to this country, respectively, a Lady Thorn and a Goldsmith Maid. Uniting in such perfect harmony the family lineage of the two great trotting queens, and in himself and his produce overcoming all the infirmities incident to either family, and displaying so much of the combined excellence of both, he can not fail to occupy a high place in the estimation of every American breeder.

It is my purpose in these chapters to call especial attention to the matter of gait, as illustrated in the representative stallions selected for consideration. It is more difficult to describe with intelligent accuracy the precise gait of Administrator, in all its niceties, than that of some of the others selected. His gait is not that of the average Mambrino Chief family, and does not much resemble it, although he possesses the skeleton framework which would tend to secure that gait. His body is more muscular, and not so lathy, and has not so much of the dry, sinewy form, and has none of the slashing looseness that characterizes many of the Mambrinos of the Pilot cross. His trotting is to a fair degree far reaching before and behind, but has not that elastic springiness that characterizes the pure Abdallah gait, nor the far-reaching rear propellers of the Clay and Patchen cross; but he has so much solidity, and is withal so compact and muscular, that his gait, which is mainly Hambletonian in its form and stroke, carries with it such an idea and appearance of momentum, that we fail to classify it with any other than his own. It must not be inferred from this, however, that his gait is lacking in elasticity—it has an abundance of it; but his great muscular power of body and limb stands out as the prominent feature of his gait. He carries his head out, and at a fair elevation, and his tail well up—and I have not yet seen one of his colts that did not show a high croup, and carry the tail well out and at a handsome elevation. He goes forward with an apparent will and determination that seem irresistible.

Before closing this chapter, a word must be said on the question as to whether this horse is to be regarded as a really impressive sire. When I first became acquainted with him I had some doubts on the subject. Hambletonian was not entitled to any such distinction. He was made up of two elements somewhat diverse from each other, and

one of them possessing qualities that were often found standing in the way of the others. In Administrator a still third element, in very powerful and positive form, is introduced, from which the conclusion speedily arose that if Hambletonian was not an impressive and universally successful sire, such a rank could hardly be expected for Administrator. But the doubt had superficial foundations.

Mambrino Chief was a sire of great power and impressiveness, and from his dam, Abdallah would have produced a sire perhaps the greatest we have ever seen. He was intensely impressive, and the Duroc-Messenger field is one that offers no obstructions. Not only would it receive every trait and trotting quality of the Messenger blood, but it was a current capable of floating the Bellfounder obstructions—and carrying them in the best possible manner—in solution. It really dissolved them and made them constituent parts of the ever-flowing stream. Such is the composition of Administrator. He has each of those combined in just such manner as to render them all effective. He has all the impressiveness of Mambrino Chief, and far more, for he has much of Abdallah; and he has the genius and spirit of Bellfounder to unite with the others, and he imparts to his offspring in strong degree the high qualities of the powerful combination. His success with all classes of mares is like that of Mambrino Chief, only much stronger. He will succeed with those of a strong caste of Hambletonian blood, when Mambrino Chief would have failed. I part with him in this sketch with the belief that the high estimate placed upon him by the Kentucky breeders will be justified in his successful career.

#### SONS OF ADMINISTRATOR.

Enchanter is a brown stallion, foaled in 1867, by Administrator; dam Dolly, by Black Bashaw; second dam by Saladin, son of Young Bashaw. He was bred by Jonathan Hawkins, of Orange county, N. Y., and is owned by Powell Bros., Spring, Crawford county, Pa. He is undoubtedly a superior horse, and will make a valuable stallion. He is sire of Valiant, that made a record in 1877 of 2:40½, and trotted second close to 2:30; Irene, another promising trotter, and of Ensign, a five-year-old, now owned by C. A. Lisle, of Burlington, Iowa. The statement is made that, with very little handling, he has trotted a half mile in 1:15, and a quarter in 36 seconds; never handled on a track until the present spring. Enchanter is the only stallion left by Administrator, so far as I have any knowledge, before he went to Kentucky.

A brown colt, called Gilt Edge, by Administrator, was sold Oct., 1874, and is owned by John T. Foote, of Norristown, N. J., that will be likely to be known. He was a superior colt, and his dam was Preceptress, by Strader's C. M. Clay Jr.; second dam was by Bertrand. From the known excellence of the dam and the unusually promising appearance of the colt when young, I predict for him the distinction of being both a trotter and a stallion of distinction. His owner has the satisfaction of knowing that he became such by outbidding an humble admirer of the young stallion.

Executor, a brown colt, was another colt of the same year that showed great promise. His dam was Valley Rose, by Idol, son of Mambrino Chief.

Another colt, the dam of which was Quadroon, by Young Mambrino, son of Mambrino Chief, is located at Vinton, Iowa, and was a good colt.

Le Grand, a bay colt, now three years old, sold for \$1,500 to Messrs. Polk, of Columbia, Tenn., was from a Mambrino Chief mare. Another, called Superior, now three years old, is in Montana, a large and finely gaited colt.

The excellence of Administrator as a sire thus early indicated, and the appearance of these colts at an early age, will cause them to be looked to with interest, as the first fruits of a stud career that now creates in the minds of those who are good judges the impression that this stallion will display an eminence not often attained.

## CHAPTER X.

### ALHAMBRA AND MESSENGER DUROC.

I PRESENT in this chapter two stallions, one of them a son of Mambrino Chief, and the other a son of Hambletonian, both of which have exhibited qualities that entitle them to the closest study, and in some respects to high consideration.

They belong to the Duroc-Messenger class, but each presents a case where the proper balance between these two bloods has not been duly maintained—a matter which is of the utmost importance in breeding. With regard to the blood of all the great horses to which we look as the original sources of trotting blood—Messenger, Bellfounder, Duroc, St. Lawrence, or the Pilots, and perhaps others—the important teaching of experience has been that we receive the best results from them, individually and collectively, in their remote or advanced stages, and after they have undergone changes by commingling each with the other or with different trotting elements.

To no class does this apply with as much force as is shown in the case of the Duroc blood. As these two stallions present that blood in strong currents, near to the original and closely interbred, they serve for the basis of a lesson far too important to the American breeder to have it overlooked or passed by in a treatise that stands out as authoritative and just both to the readers and the owners or breeders.

Alhambra is a brown horse, low built, compact and massive, not over fifteen hands three inches in height, with a head showing some of the strong outlines of the family to which he belongs; an ear rather larger and finer than they usually possess; a tail in later years becoming somewhat thin. He is round barreled, capacious in the chest, and very wide at the stifles. From the thigh or gaskin upward and in his forequarters he is the model of strength and compactness. His hock is not good, being too much on the Eclipse or sickle pattern, and his limbs below the hocks show that his composition is too fine.

His working machinery seems too fine for the weight of carriage accompanying, and the powerful muscular organism that runs the whole. The deficiency is far more apparent when the powerful nerve and brain organism is in active operation, displaying a muscular power and energy that is hardly to be surpassed in any animal ever seen in motion. To see him in motion, in harness or running loose, one gets the idea that his nerve and muscular energy is far too great for any horse machinery that has yet been set up—that in quality of materials and their construction we have not kept pace with the elements of motor energy that we have developed. And in his case such is really the fact.

His pedigree may be given thus:

ALHAMBRA—brown horse, foaled 1858, by Mambrino Chief.

First dam, Susan, by American Eclipse, son of Duroc.

Second dam, by Woodpecker, son of Bertrand.

Third dam, by Hephestian, son of Buzzard, out of the dam of Sir Archy.

Fourth dam, by imp. Bedford.

Fifth dam, by Twigg, son of Janus.

Sixth dam, by Harlequin, son of imp. Gabriel, the rival claimant for the paternity of the great Sir Archy.

It will be seen that his dam was a strictly thoroughbred mare, and that the grandam was by Woodpecker, son of the great Bertrand, whose grandam was imported Mambrina by Mambrino the sire of Messenger; Woodpecker was also sire of the great and almost invincible Grey Eagle, the pride of Kentucky, and one of the most distinguished race-horses that ever ran on American soil.

In arriving at a correct understanding of Alhambra, we must at all times keep in view the fact that, in addition to the fineness of her breeding, his dam was not a large mare—was indeed hardly an average-sized thoroughbred, while his sire Mambrino Chief was a very large and coarse-boned horse, over sixteen hands high, strong and heavy in every part. Had the respective positions of these conditions as to sex of the parents been reversed in the make-up of the horse, Alhambra would have been different.

Messenger Duroc is a rich bay stallion, foaled June 3d, 1865. His marks are two white hind ankles. His exact size may be taken as given out by his owners: Sixteen hands one inch on the withers, and sixteen hands two inches at the coupling or over the hips. His weight is given as 1,175 to 1,200 pounds. He is called, in a sketch sent forth by his owner, a large-featured, well-proportioned horse of

substance and power, with a head large and long, a Roman profile and countenance mild and pleasant; neck slightly ewed, of medium length; shoulders deep, broad and strong; girth deep and with plenty of heart room; somewhat flat on the rib; loin arched and strong, and coupled well back; his hips rather prominent, and the propelling point beneath so conspicuously developed that his powerful quarters and stifles, and large bony hocks, hung near the ground, attract immediate attention. Altogether he is a plain horse, but with a look of usefulness about him that compensates for some lack in finish.

To the above description I may subjoin my own, as originally published. He has a full mane, and a long and heavy tail hanging on the ground; he has a large and coarse head, a neck large enough, and yet, for so large a horse, it has some of the form known as *ewe neck*; his withers stand a little higher than the average Hambletonian pattern; he is somewhat flat-ribbed, and his hips are strong and prominent. Those who have written about him have generally called him coarse in his outline, and this has been generally attributed to the double share of the Abdallah blood which he possesses. This is not wholly correct. The Abdallah blood is strong in him, and the Bellfounder is not wholly obliterated, although it has been greatly overmatched in his outward form. The vital force of the blood is still there, and has yet a good share in the general combination. There are other blood elements, however, of a very powerful nature, and quite positive in their character, which assert a large share of control in his composition. He has many of the elements of a great trotting stallion, and he has other elements which will greatly mar his success in that field. He has an element of Duroc blood, which has always been noted for trotting excellence, and, when in proper limit and combination, is entitled to the highest consideration as a trotting constituent. His Abdallah blood carries with it the full force, and much of the high trotting quality of that unsurpassed element, while his Bellfounder strains, though struggling against superior odds, show at times their superb trotting excellence, and retain a large influence over the general trotting impulses of this horse and his offspring, and give to him and his produce much of the peculiar and unmistakable trotting quality for which the Bellfounder cross is noted. While in color and markings the Bellfounder element of Hambletonian has triumphed in this horse, in the matter of form and outward conformation its power is overmatched and compelled to yield in great part to the other two blood forces which always run well

together and into any other channels with a facility not known to the more fickle Bellfounder. The force of the Bellfounder blood in his case is quite like that in the Hambletonians of the Star cross—not in any way impaired as respects the trotting quality, however it may be as to other bearings of that blood force.

It will be seen further along that, in his produce he does not assert the Bellfounder preference for color that distinguished his sire and the Hambletonian family generally.

In the matter of size, he is above the true roadster model.

He is too large, unless the quality of horseflesh was advanced at the same rate that his physical proportions were increased. A horse 15 hands 3 inches is as large as any one needs, if we consult the statistics of the great performers. Some wish a horse not less than 16 hands; but, for trotting or road purposes, I will say that I do not want to go beyond that height, and prefer to stop one inch short of it. In addition, I have generally observed that, as we increase the size above that figure, we detract from the quality instead of adding to it, as is required if we retain merit in the large horse in proportion to his size. I would rather breed from mares that were large, and from a compact, densely-built stallion a little under the size that I desired to reach, than to select a stallion that was above the size that I desired to reproduce in the horse to be bred. An over-sized stallion is always objectionable, unless the aim is to breed horses of large size, and having no reference to the quality or the purpose for which the animal is to be used.

It is true there is a popular demand for large horses, and that owing to close in-breeding and other causes, there is a dwarfing tendency in the growth of horses in some parts of our country that must be met. Hence, a large and rangy horse is in great degree popular. Nevertheless, for the great performer or the reproducer, give me the compact, closely built horse of not above the size of fifteen and three-quarter hands, and not above 1,150 lbs. in weight. It will be observed, however, that Messenger Duroc is not as heavy a horse as his proportions would indicate.

The following pedigree has been given by the owner of Messenger Duroc, and often vouched for as strictly authentic:

MESSENGER DUROC—b. s., 16 hands, white hind ankles, foaled June 3, 1865, got by Hambletonian.

First dam, Satinet, foaled 1854, by Roe's Abdallah Chief.

Second dam, Catbird, foaled 1834, by Whistle Jacket.



Third dam, Lyon Mare, by Bertholf Horse.  
 Fourth dam by Duroc, son of imp. Diomed  
 Hambletonian, by Abdallah.  
 First dam, Charles Kent Mare, by imp. Bellfounder.  
 Second dam, One Eye, by Bishop's Hambletonian.  
 Third dam, Silvertail, by imp. Messenger.  
 Abdallah, by Mambrino, son of imp. Messenger.  
 Dam, Amazonia, by son of imp. Messenger.  
 Hambletonian (Bishop's), by imp. Messenger.  
 First dam, Pheasant, by imp. Shark.  
 Second dam by imp. Medley.  
 Abdallah Chief (Roe's), by Abdallah, son of Mambrino.  
 First dam by Phillips, son of Duroc.  
 Second dam by Decatur, thoroughbred son of Henry.  
 Whistle Jacket, by Mambrino, son of imp. Messenger.  
 First dam by American Eclipse.  
 Second dam by Bertholf Horse.  
 Bertholf Horse, by imp. Messenger.

The striking feature of this pedigree, as has been remarked many times, is the great number of times it runs to Messenger and Duroc, the two horses from which he takes his name. The dam of Decatur was by American Eclipse, a son of Duroc, his second dam was by Duroc—which, with the other lines, makes his blood run to Messenger seven times, including two to Abdallah, five times to Duroc, and once to Bellfounder. This is truly remarkable breeding—remarkable for the many excellences it embraces, as well as for the defects that it re-unites and so often blends with the great qualities of the combination. With such a combination, he should be a trotter and a sire of trotters, for no pedigree can be found in all the annals of breeding that embraces thirteen crosses of such trotting strains as those of Messenger, Bellfounder and Duroc, almost unmixed with any other elements; and when we look to the external form, the conformation of part with part, as shown in his measurements, it will be seen that he has the trotting measurement in a degree unsurpassed by any.

I have before said the Bellfounder blood is present in him, and shows much of its richness and lustre. These are the crosses in which it always excels. It is not easy to efface it entirely, although in him it is greatly over-matched. That of Abdallah and Messenger is in chief control, and in his subsequent crosses in and out will most likely assert a supremacy, as that is the known character of this blood, and in addition, in our trotters as now bred, it is more likely to be reinforced than to find new forces of the Duroc element. It would seem he had about all that could be found in this country already.

Alhambra and Messenger Duroc, in their physical organism, are made up differently, owing to the difference in the quality and make-up of the various animals that have entered into their several and respective pedigrees, but the prominent and chief blood traits or characteristics of the two are essentially alike. Alhambra is a horse of a very superior muscular organism. His body is formed for displays of strength and energy vastly greater than his machinery of limb and leverage are able to execute with due regard to safety. His ordnance is of a weight and quality far too great for the strength and quality of the carriage on which it is mounted.

He was the result of a cross between two animals too extreme and distant in their construction. Had his dam been a part-bred mare, larger and coarser, but possessing the essential blood elements of this mare Susan, he would have been a far different horse—not lacking anything in his essential character, but of vastly more endurance and power. His sire was the extreme of coarseness and his dam the perfection of fineness, even to a degree of delicacy. Besides, Alhambra lacks in leverage. He is a low-built horse, and short from his hip to his hock, not over thirty-nine inches, while his thigh is the full Eclipse and Duroc pattern of twenty-four inches. His muscular power in body and quarters is immense, hardly surpassed anywhere.

His advance or propelling power does not consist in the sweep or range of his leverage as much as in the extreme of muscular energy. He does not display the long sweeping strides of Lady Thorn or of Bodine, but goes with a plunge and a stroke that is simply terrific.

His muscular action is violent and swift, his stroke not so much marked by its precision and steadiness, like that of Abdallah, as its vigor and plunging energy. When he trots, it looks as though something must break.

He is not lacking in steadiness or brain balance—he has that in full volume; but his limb machinery is wholly inadequate in strength and in leverage for the immense concentration of power that he brings to bear upon it.

The character and qualities by him displayed belong also to his stock; wherein he excels, they excel, and wherein he is lacking, they are deficient.

Alhambra was bred by the late R. A. Alexander, the distinguished breeder of Kentucky, whose high character as a gentleman of integrity and great sagacity is known all over the continent. He was equally distinguished for his high appreciation of horse breeding as

one of the most elevated and useful pursuits that could be honored by a true gentleman and man of refined tastes and ample fortune. He gave a certificate stating that after having sold Alhambra (being a very large breeder) he thought so well of him that in eight months thereafter he repurchased him for two thousand dollars—four times the price at which he had sold him. He says his trainer failed to keep him steady, but at times he showed almost a two-minute gait.

While Alhambra was in no respect lacking in true brain balance, it is very clear to my mind that with his short leverage and immense propelling power, it would be a task next to impossible to keep him steady. It was for reasons physical—not those of nerve or temperament. It was for the same reason that Smuggler requires the immense weight to keep him in true ballast for his prodigious displays—a physical organism that is not suited for such a rate of speed at the trotting gait.

Alhambra soon showed a capacity to trot in 2:30, and an organism of muscle and brain power capable of a rate of speed far greater than his machinery could endure.

Alhambra has produced some colts that gave great promise of distinction, but like himself are unable to hold out. They at an early age showed an aptitude for trotting, and an organism full of speed and nervous energy, but a physical conformation not sufficient to endure severe training. They had more energy than they could carry, and for this reason came short of the expectations of their breeders in almost every instance.

Other causes arising from their in-breeding in the Duroc blood, yet to be noticed, have greatly lowered them in popular esteem—their merit was great and attractive, but their deficiency was so much greater that their fame has lost much of the lustre with which they began their career. They were early, precocious and exceedingly promising, but could not endure the amount of work necessary to bring them to a high degree of perfection as great trotters. They seemed to have all the natural elements of a great family, but when subjected to the severe test of hard work and training, they were found to possess a physical organism that could not hold out. There was in their composition an element that could not endure friction without betraying weakness.

Messenger Duroc, while showing the predominant traits of the cross from which he comes, differs from Alhambra in several particulars, both as a trotter and a breeder, but in the traits above referred to, he

and his produce show a likeness to those of the other family that stamps them as of one blood and a common kinship, although coming from different sires.

In Messenger Duroc there was not the wide discrepancy between the physical conformation of the sire and dam, and in the antecedent crosses. On the dam's side it was successive unions of the blood of Messenger and Duroc for several generations, each coming in part through animals that were not strictly thoroughbred.

Moreover, the sire in this case was not one of the coarseness and lack of quality displayed by Mambrino Chief.

While Messenger Duroc has not the muscular power in small compass that marks Alhambra, he has a vastly superior leverage or machinery with which to execute the impulses that propel the muscular organism. His great frame-work is built on the true model for one of the grandest trotters on a large scale we have anywhere seen. For the far-reaching, great striding, and free, open stepping gait of the trotter, he has a form and physical conformation not surpassed by any we have yet produced in any family. Had Lady Thorn raised a son from Hambletonian as the sire, we might have expected a horse showing a conformation equal to that of Messenger Duroc or any other. The stallion Administrator comes the closest and in some respects even surpasses him, but not in leverage.

The similarity between Messenger Duroc and Administrator is greater than any other two sons of Hambletonian, yet the differences, simply those of direction and degree in certain particulars, make them widely different both in themselves and in their produce. The difference in size, conformation and blood constituents is not so great as in the tendencies or workings of those same blood elements. Both are made up almost essentially in character of the blood constituents of Messenger, Duroc and Bellfounder. But it is not an uncommon thing for the blood of one animal to work one way in one organization, and a very different way in another, almost identical in the constituent factors embraced in the union. The dam of Ohio Bellfounder was almost a fac-simile in blood of the dam of the Charles Kent mare; but Hambletonian, in his great family, represents the one, and *nothing* represents the other. It was the blood of Bellfounder that made the difference in each case.

The immense trotting leverage of Messenger Duroc is shown in a length of 41 inches from hip to hock, and a thigh  $25\frac{1}{2}$  inches. No stallion in America can surpass him in the open display of a free,

sweeping gait. His manner of going was so attractive at an early day as to create impressions favorable to his greatness as a trotting sire; and on one occasion, when his owner had offered him for sale at \$10,000, and he was in harness for exhibition to expectant purchasers, his grand "opening out," as they termed it, was such that his owner withdrew him before the applicants had time to signify their acceptance of the horse at the price named.

The qualities here on this occasion exhibited were simply those of gait and apparent capacity for speed, not actual speed itself. The horse has not probably ever shown as great speed as Alhambra, and it is often said his owner does not know how fast he can go. But there is reason to believe he has never yet gone fast enough to show great speed, whatever may have been his capacity.

His breeding and his way of going both justified the opinion that he would make a successful sire, and that his produce would display great aptitude for the trotting gait. Such was my own opinion of him as early as 1871, when I first saw him, and when his owner did not esteem him so highly as another son of Hambletonian that he has since passed out of his breeding establishment. I then selected him as, in my opinion, the great trotting stallion of the Hambletonian family, and on the strength of this opinion subsequently gave him my patronage, although I had at the first some cause for fearing there might be some inherent offset to his prepossessing form and great trotting promise.

He has now been before the public more prominently for the past few years than any other horse in the country. The correspondents and journals have each vied with the other in their efforts to induce the public to place upon him an estimate higher than ever before placed on another of his years. He has been advertised in a manner to excite in the popular mind the very highest opinion of his merits. His lists of mares have been announced to be full, at a high price, and when an additional list was to be admitted, at a still higher price, the announcement had hardly reached distant parts of the country until it was followed by another, declaring the enlarged list to be also full. Of course such a flood tide of popularity could only be met, and that but partially, by an increase in price, and so it went from \$100 to \$200, and finally to \$300.

It has, since the date above referred to, transpired that his limbs have been found lacking in quality, or rather possessing certain traits that now promise to dim the splendor of the great expectations with which he started out.

I believe it is understood that Messenger Duroc has never spent much time in actual work upon road or track. He is yet young, and if he has limbs that would endure such work it might set at rest some doubts, if he could be worked for a few seasons, and show that his fibre was of the sort that enjoyed it. It would be a satisfaction to some, doubtless, to know if his cellular tissue could stand friction without irritation; and further, if he has that health of joint that will take up and absorb all the synovial fluids he secretes. I think there is some room for apprehension on this branch of the subject. The first time I ever saw him he had just been severely blistered on both of his hind ankles, and the appearance of his limbs and hocks at that time suggested to my mind doubts which have increased on seeing him and some of his produce since that time. I have long since heard that his produce were, many of them, not quite satisfactory in regard to the health and soundness of their limbs. Since the appearance of my original chapter relating to this horse it has been a matter of public notoriety that his stock were in very large numbers unsound, and showing out the defective tendencies to which I called attention.

The high trotting quality displayed by them, and their robust, growthy natures and generally good disposition, had led their breeders to anticipate the highest results, yet the great prevalence of defects so serious and so incurable has had the effect to cast down many otherwise brilliant hopes. The seat of these defects is to be found in an unsound element which has been deeply bred in, and can not readily be eradicated. It is certain this taint does not reside in the Abdallah or Bellfounder blood, or the other Messenger crosses which abound in this horse. Messenger and his family had a certain kind of coarseness about them, but when uncontaminated by other and baser blood, it was not a coarseness that ran to disease or unsoundness. They were a synonym for health and soundness, although sometimes rough in outward form.

Whence, then, does he derive this peculiarity which is likely to dim the lustre of one of the most promising of the Hambletonian families?

I do not care to dwell on this subject, but will answer the question by reference to that part of Chapter V where I have given an account of the stallion Duroc, son of Diomed. It is a fact now clearly understood by all intelligent and well informed horsemen that these defects in the Duroc-Messenger families came from too close in-breeding in

the blood of Duroc. It was a blood of great value in the union with that of Messenger, but it will not in many cases bear to be closely inbred. The great defect with Alhambra and his produce was identical with the case of this stallion Messenger Duroc, the Eclipse and Mambrino Chief blood brought out the infirm tendencies of the Duroc blood in too great force. The result was, the family gained an unfavorable reputation.

Messenger Duroc has even more of the Duroc blood than Alhambra. It is so strong that in spite of the powerful and generally prevailing trait of color in the family descendants of Hambletonian, Messenger Duroc produces a great many light chestnuts.

I found it to be my duty to call attention to the deep-seated cause and origin of these injurious qualities in the first publication of my sketches, and it is apparent that a great change has already been wrought in the popular estimate of the value of this stallion as a sire.

It is but just that in thus speaking of the ill-founded reputation of these two stallions and the decline of that fame, I should say a word further. In the case of Alhambra he was owned by a gentleman of means who went into the breeding business from a sincere love of it. He had large means, and was an ardent admirer of the Eclipse blood, and to his own enthusiasm in that direction, in great part, is due the utter failure of his horse. His ill repute was greatly increased from the fact that he had so many mares bred in the same blood. The horse had so many excellent and truly admirable qualities that to a man of such a genuine enthusiasm he was the ideal of equine greatness. He has seen the error, however, in the results.

It must be apparent by this time to all intelligent breeders, that the only objection that can be taken to either of these two stallions which alike possess so much merit, is founded on the fact that they are too closely bred in the Duroc blood. The blood itself shows its great value in so many of the first horses we have ever bred, that it would of itself carry in its own excellence the temptation to breed it too close and strong.

The success of the Volunteer family undoubtedly lay in the fact that the Duroc strains so operated on the Messenger as to let out the riches of the Bellfounder blood. The entire family of American Star and the Star-Hambletonians, Gov. Sprague, and Rhode Island his sire, the Thorndales and Almonts, and all of the families of Mambrino Chief, Administrator, Blackwood and Swigert, all owe their greatness to this union of the blood of Duroc and Messenger;

but its highest excellences are shown when the Duroc force is remote.

In this stallion Messenger Duroc, laying out of view the one bad feature of this blood, the good qualities of the union are exhibited in a degree never yet reached in any horse we have seen on this continent. The various unions of which he was constituted were somewhat removed from the strictly thoroughbred, which was in his favor. Road elements were early introduced, and at all stages formed a large share of his constituents. This had the effect on both the Duroc and the Messenger to present these strains with their trotting tendencies in a constant state of progressive development, and the opposite or galloping tendencies of two bloods originally thoroughbred constantly falling into the retrograde. In this manner, while in a high state of development, these Duroc-Messenger strains united with the Bellfounder-Messenger from Hambletonian, and the result, as seen in Messenger Duroc, must be acknowledged as the highest exhibition of royal trotting blood ever seen in this country. This must be clearly conceded. The three elements are there combined in that horse in a degree of excellence—trotting quality only being considered—nowhere yet approached in any other stallion. Moreover, the respective channels through which these several unions approached were pre-eminently the best that could have been selected. The dam of Messenger Duroc was a daughter of Abdallah Chief, a son of Abdallah.

If the Duroc strains in this pedigree had been limited to those contained in Abdallah Chief, and the Messenger crosses in the background had still been maintained, the superiority of the horse would have been unquestionable.

As a sire it is apparent that the Duroc blood is in masterly supremacy, but, as above premised, laying aside the unfavorable aspects of this element, and looking only to the trotting qualities displayed, it must be acknowledged by all that he is an extraordinary breeder. He started off not as the favorite in the stud where he is owned, but he soon left the favorite in the distance. His list includes Prospero, 2:20, and eight heats in 2:30 or better; Hogarth, a four-year-old, 2:26, and three heats in 2:30 or better; Elaine, a filly three years old, with record of 2:28, one second better than Lady Stout, the Kentucky favorite; Reform, Dame Trot, Mansfield, Helen Russell, McClure, Miranda, Marengo and Philosopher, with others whose names I have not at hand—no list or materials for this sketch having been supplied



for my use. His produce are regarded by all as showing an early promise of trotting excellence. Earliness of development is a characteristic of the Duroc-Messenger class.

Notwithstanding the precocity and apparent excellence of his produce, it must be taken as an absolute certainty that they can not endure the severe work that all recognize as necessary to bring them to the highest perfection as performers. The high rates of speed shown by them will now and then appear, but the same performers can not be relied upon for constant capability or for continuous advancement. They will not include any of the character of Goldsmith Maid and Rarus. When his daughters, properly selected, shall have been coupled with the best of other trotting stallions, noted for strength and inherent health, the best and most valuable results from his blood can be reached—not in his own immediate produce, but in the more advanced stages of breeding, when we shall have had opportunity to practice on selections and crosses thus to be made. I should value a daughter of Messenger Duroc in my breeding plans, and believe that I could select a mating that would vindicate in its results the correctness of the opinion above expressed.

His greatest success hitherto has been with mares by Sayer's Harry Clay—a valuable testimony to the meritorious combination of which they are made, and a clear proof that the Bellfounder blood in his composition is not a nominal nor a dormant factor, but one that is present and operative in full force, and ready, on receiving a proper reinforcement, to display the power and quality of the elements that have come down from the fabled Norfolk trotter.

This horse Messenger Duroc will excel, as he has already proved, with mares that go back strongly toward the Bellfounder blood. That blood always nicked well with the Duroc strains; the royal trotting quality of the one was hardly surpassed by that of the other. His colts are all young, and thus far he has not shown any great promise except with mares that run back to Bellfounder, either through Harry Clay, or Hambletonian, or some other source. It must be kept in mind that he has not yet gained any repute for colts by any other class of mares—a very remarkable testimony in favor of the meritorious qualities of the Bellfounder blood; and it must be borne in mind that his opportunities, for the time he has been in the stud, have far surpassed those of any other stallion that ever stood in America. He has had access to the best Star and in-bred Messenger mares, the dams of many great celebrities, besides others of different lines of blood; he

has stood at the topmost figure; his list has been announced as full and again full; and in the face of all this, his chief reputation for sound and promising trotters rests on the produce of mares of this Bellfounder blood. His produce will be most likely to run strongly after the Abdallah type. I have observed that in all the in-bred Hambletonians the Abdallah form has the ascendancy. It is manifested in the increase of forequarter, the lightness and narrowness of the hindquarters, and the flatness of the ribs. I have observed this in the produce of several sons of Hambletonian, when the dams were by other sires. The Abdallah is apt to get ahead. And so it will be in the produce of Messenger Duroc. I should not select him as a stallion for a Star mare. I should in no case send a mare with a Mambrino Chief or a strong Duroc pedigree to him—I should get away as far as possible from them. But keep it in mind that I do not place a low estimate on the blood of either Duroc or Mambrino Chief for trotting quality. Far from it. For my great trotting stallion of the future, or the present, I shall not hastily reject either of these elements, but I wish to take them with a full view of their defective tendencies, and a hope to avail myself of their virtues without, at the same time, entailing on my stock any of their stains or blemishes.

And thus will breeders estimate in the future their chances in breeding from such a stallion as Messenger Duroc. His large form and great power, with his truly grand trotting conformation, and the precocity of his produce, will induce many to take chances on the soundness of the stock produced. His stock, like the Mambrino Chief family, will trot early, and some may be found to train on and improve to full age. Hence there will be chances for the trotting lists of 2:20 and under, to show now and then the names of sons or daughters of Messenger Duroc. At all events, his combination of blood and the results of his career in the stud, will afford some valuable and highly suggestive lessons to the diligent student and the philosophical breeder.

## CHAPTER XI.

### EDWARD EVERETT AND THE STAR-HAMBLETONIANS.

FOR reasons that may perhaps be apparent during the progress of this chapter, I find it convenient to treat of the Edward Everett branch of the Hambletonian family in connection with those whose dams were the so-called Star mares. This son of Hambletonian is one of the oldest now before the public, and has achieved no small distinction as a sire of first-class trotters. He was foaled in 1855, was bred by Adam Lilburn, of Orange county, N. Y., and has been owned since 1869 by Robert Bonner, Esq., proprietor of the *New York Ledger*, a gentleman of national reputation, and as a patron and friend of horse breeding, in the highest and noblest department, without a rival or a peer.

His first produce that achieved distinction was Mountain Boy, so often matched against Lady Thorn, who attained a record of 2:20 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Judge Fullerton, another son of great distinction, has made many campaigns, and has a record of 2:18. His fastest son is probably Joe Elliott, who is generally credited with having trotted a mile in 2:19 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and is alleged also to have made a mile in 2:15 $\frac{1}{2}$ —neither of which, however, were record performances. That he is capable of great speed, and perhaps equal to anything that has appeared on the trotting turf, there can be little doubt. In addition to these, Tanner Boy has a record of 2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and 28 heats in 2:30 and better; Sheridan, 2:23, and 8 heats; Everett Ray, 2:25 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and 14 heats; Big Fellow, 2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and 6 heats. Judge Fullerton has made 91 heats in 2:30 or better.

I may here observe that scarcely anything is known of the blood or qualities of the mares from which any of these really great performers have been bred. It seems to have been the fate of this horse to have been kept in the dark, and bred in the dark, until forced into distinction by the performances of his gelded sons, for such they all seem to be. Moreover, nothing is known, with any degree of reliability, about



EDWARD EVERETT.



the blood or breeding of his own dam, except as I draw it by inference from the qualities and characteristics of himself and his family. The pedigree which has been accredited by some to his dam, is that of a thoroughbred mare, and by imp. Margrave. The mare, a small but highly bred chestnut, was well known in the vicinity of Newburgh, N. Y. The following is the pedigree that has been generally accredited to the mare:

FANNY—chestnut mare, foaled about 1846; bred by Mr. Mansfield, of Virginia, by imported Margrave.  
First dam by Trumpator.  
Second dam by Lindsay's Arabian.  
Third dam by imported Osear.  
Fourth dam by imported Vampire.  
Fifth dam by Col. Carter Braxton's imported Kitty Fisher by Cade.

It is stated in Bruce's Stud Book, that this pedigree is given on the certificate of a well known turfman, but not her breeder, and the chief question relating thereto is one of identity.

I enter into no controversy about alleged pedigrees, except so far as their acceptance stands in the way of clear indications of lineage as exhibited in the conformations and blood qualities of the given animals and their descendants. In such cases I follow the path marked by conformation, physical organization and blood traits, which, to my mind, are more satisfactory and assuring than certificates of pedigree as they are sometimes obtained.

Another observation I will here make—that in case an alleged thoroughbred pedigree is challenged and widely controverted, it may be generally regarded as not genuine, unless its identity and genuineness be followed up and traced to a responsible and entirely reliable source, and its authenticity fully established; for such can in all cases be done, if the pedigree be that of a thoroughbred. The same can not and should not be expected of part-bred animals. It is not sufficient to rest the pedigree on the certificate of any man, unless he had the means of knowing all the facts from the beginning.

But in the case of this truly great stallion there is really no occasion for special controversy about the pedigree of his dam, as he has individual merit enough in himself, as a sire of trotters, to supply any deficiency in the pedigree of his dam; and as the Margrave blood has never in a single instance been known to contribute anything to the trotting turf, either remotely or immediately, he loses nothing by dropping from sight his alleged Margrave cross. Moreover, his own

conformation and that of all his family, transmitted with a degree of positiveness clearly defined, and not to be mistaken, nowhere excelled in that of any family on this continent, point my mind, with entire satisfaction, to the origin of his maternal ancestor, and all the peculiarities which so clearly mark him and his produce.

Still further, I can not be persuaded that Hambletonian could produce such a horse as Edward Everett from any thoroughbred mare. It would be contrary to the well known blood affinities and breeding qualities of Hambletonian, and an enigma in cross-breeding without a parallel in the history of the family. Hambletonian was a horse made up of curious and rare compounds, and his great excellences were only drawn out by mares possessing certain blood traits, far removed from those of the strictly thoroughbred. This horse Edward Everett follows in quality and blood traits after the similitude of Hambletonian far too closely to have come from a mare whose quality was only that of a thoroughbred.

Edward Everett is a small but lengthily-appearing horse. He is  $61\frac{1}{2}$  inches, or 15 hands  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches, in height; his shoulder extends forward, like that of his sire, and he goes far backward at the buttock or posterior, which gives him his appearance of length of body. His withers rise more prominently than did those of his sire; his tail or croup stands not quite so high, and his whirlbone, being much lower, gives him the sloping rump, or drooping hindquarters, quite unlike the Messenger and Bellfounder families. In other respects he greatly resembles his sire, and has much of the Bellfounder form, especially in the barrel and forequarter. His skin is of the finest texture, and he shows a glossy golden-bay coat, not equaled by any son of Hambletonian that I have ever seen—all pointing to a horse of very high breeding. His eyes are wide apart, and very prominent, like all the Abdallah family. In point of temper he can not be said to be of the best. When I saw him, four years ago, his keeper was afraid of him, and I was limited to a very narrow inspection of him in his stall, where he was tied with three halters, no one, as it seemed, daring to approach him. This, I am told, has been, in large part, owing to improper treatment by those who raised him.

In this he shows a strong leaning toward the Messenger family, as in many other particulars. He knows the difference between kind and ill-treatment. He also will not brook undue familiarity; but for all this, he can not be called in any sense a vicious horse. Since passing into Mr. Bonner's hands he has become more docile, and it

was not a difficult matter to approach and handle him while in the care of his accustomed keepers, when I saw him quite recently.

His front legs are not quite satisfactory, being over at the knees—a trait that comes as much from the fact that he has a long front cannon and a short forearm as from any other. This also causes him and his produce that have a similar proportion of limb to strike the ground with force, and is inducive of injury to the feet and limbs. It is a feature that detracts something from the very high trotting capacity and quality of his family.

His measurement of limb for trotting qualities is what we would call a short-leverage conformation. His front cannon-bones are not as short, and his hip and thigh not as long as the best. His skeleton form is not that of a great trotting family. There is not a particle of Duroc blood in him. Trotting action does not come so natural to his family as to some others; hence they do not show it so plainly in colthood, and do not excel as field trotters—they are not naturally the early, showy fellows.

Whence then comes his great excellence as a sire, and the great performance of some of his produce? The inclination to trot, of course, comes from the Hambletonian blood; and as Hambletonian did not impart this quality to all of his produce in equal degree, so this son does not impart the trotting capacity alike to all; but those who do inherit it have also the faculty of training on, and go with flights of speed that are the wonder of all beholders. Where does this all repose? No one has ever attempted to explain it. Why is it that, lacking in the leverage conformation requisite for great performance, he is yet able to impart such superior powers to so many of his produce?

Any one who has closely studied the peculiar qualities of the Messenger and the Bellfounder blood has found that with all the excellences of each, they require a sort of *toning* before they let out their richest exhibitions of trotting power. The Messenger must have some little alloy of road elements, to get rid of the Arab tendencies and cause it to assimilate and let out its real trotting excellences. Just in like manner the Bellfounder element refused entirely to amalgamate with the strictly thoroughbred strains, and required some of its kindred blood that had like ingredients of alloy. The road-worked Messenger going back to the pristine Sampson with his coach-horse blood and instincts, was the amalgam that caused the Bellfounder in Hambletonian to fuse and work in harmony and power in other com-



binations. Moreover, I have constantly presented the idea, here quite manifest, that these changes from these great and positive elements can not be made abruptly, but must be reached by gradual approaches. This is a law of breeding never more clearly illustrated than in connection with these two blood elements.

Hambletonian has left one son from a thoroughbred mare, and let his total unfitness as a trotting sire teach us the lesson that the blood of a thoroughbred mare could not produce so great a stallion as Edward Everett. But the dam of Edward Everett, while she had a near cross of Diomed blood beyond reasonable doubt, had such a backing up of the blood of Messenger—for it was Messenger and nothing else shining out so positively—that she drew out of Hambletonian the blended qualities of Abdallah and Bellfounder in a degree not surpassed by any son he has produced. The composition of Edward Everett is as clearly indicated as that of any son of Hambletonian. Diomed is in the near ground, but not in as strong force as in the Stars, who have two crosses near at hand; Everett has but one, and no Duroc whatever. But his strong Messenger and Bellfounder caste is clear, unmistakable and very positive. He has the blood composition of a great trotting sire. The record attests the fact that such he is. The number of his produce is not probably great, owing to the high price at which his services have been held in recent years. In fact he has occupied more the character of a private stallion, and as such his services were most likely limited in large degree to the mares belonging to his owner. Had he received the promiscuous patronage due to his merits, he would, beyond doubt, present a list which not many could equal.

A close study of Everett and his family has revealed to me the fact that the great power—the chief and distinguishing feature of his family—is one of *muscle*; that it is in large part in the peculiarly powerful muscular development of this family that their chief greatness is found. Their feet and legs are not equal to some others; their skeleton anatomy has no elements of great trotting adaptation; but they have inherited on one side a trotting brain and nerve organization of surpassing force very well balanced, with an incomparable constitutional vigor, and on the other they have the muscular form of a race-horse that ran on his muscle, and by it wrote his name in bright letters on the page of turf history.

Joe Elliott is to-day the finest specimen of muscular development—unless it be one other, which I shall mention in this chapter—that I

ever saw. For the present I shall go no further than to say that Edward Everett measures 11 inches in his front cannon-bone,  $19\frac{3}{4}$  inches in his forearm, 38 inches from hip to hock, and  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches in his length of thigh. Joe Elliott is 11 inches in front cannon, 20 inches in forearm, 39 inches from hip to hock, and 23 inches in his thigh. His great stride is not due to his length of limb or propelling leverage, but to the sheer and marvelous muscular power that drives it, which, like a charge of dynamite, has no regard to the length of barrel or quality of gun from which it is fired, but has a power in itself that can not be measured or confined.

#### THE STAR-HAMBLETONIANS.

Turning here for awhile from the consideration of this family, I direct attention to an examination of the Star cross—a term that has been linked with the name and fame of Hambletonian, and which furnishes us with a subject of study worthy the employment of our best hours.

So much has been said and written about this famed union of bloods—so much laudation has been expended upon it—that it might be supposed little need be said, or could be written, that would add to its lustre, or solve its mysterious greatness. The real truth, however, seems to be, that of all that has been said or written, no real light has been shed upon the subject; no one has told us wherein the greatness of the cross consists; why it has occurred that the blood of Hambletonian crossed upon mares by American Star has resulted in such great celebrities on the trotting turf; nor have any of them, so far as I can discover, even told us what those great and marvelous qualities of the Star blood consisted of, or from what especial sources they were derived.

One of the most noted authors of our day, in a recent periodical, for which I have a kindly regard, has given us a highly eulogistic article on certain members of this family, in which he has told us, among other things, that Dexter possesses that indomitable, invincible spirit which distinguished English Eclipse; that in Dexter there are at least three crosses of Diomed, grandson of King Herod, fortified by the blood of his best son Highflyer; and we are asked if we are to believe that all this concentrated King Herod blood in the sire of Dexter's dam was neutralized by one cross of Messenger in Star's grandam. But the vagueness of the conundrum is seen in the absence of all light as to the trotting qualities of this all-powerful King Herod and Highflyer blood.

We are still further enlightened by the information that American Star was descended from Duroc and Henry and Sir Archy and Diomed, with one cross of Messenger, but no one has attempted to explain the operations of these bloods. Nothing has been so common of recent years as to see lengthy laudations of pedigrees that contained many crosses of Diomed, and yet no one has attempted to show why the blood of Diomed has any adaptation to the purposes of the trotting horse; and in the two instances given of Duroc, a son, and Henry, a double grandson, no one has pointed out the special fitness or unfitness of either of these bloods resting on any definite quality which could in any way adapt either one to promoting excellence in the trotter. An examination of the two will reveal the fact, that although of the family of Diomed, the grandson of King Herod, they were each as different in their qualities as were the little planet Venus that shines so brightly, and the great comet that appeared in our sky a few years ago. It is time we should cease this jargon of names, and look beyond the list of animals, and into the lines and qualities of the blood that enters into the composition of an animal.

Hambletonian achieved much of his fame from the produce of Star mares. He had access to many of them, as their sire had spent most of his life in the same county, and as a family they were already noted for the high trotting qualities which have since distinguished the union of the two bloods. The combination that gave us Dexter, Jay Gould, Socrates, Huntress, Startle, Dictator, Gauntlet, Wilkins Micawber, Aberdeen, and a long list of other celebrities, all possessed of great speed, bottom and game to the very last, is one well worthy of the most careful study.

High breeding is the first characteristic that strikes the beholder. No horse can show a more genuine thoroughbred type to-day than Dexter. In point of temper, unflinching courage and game to the point of desperation, no thoroughbred family can surpass them. For ready trotting action, true poise of body, steady stroke, and all that makes up purity of gait in a trotter, they stand as a family without a rival or a peer. In point of form, they are a wide departure from that of Hambletonian and the average of his family. They are smaller and finer in form. The Abdallah features of the head are displaced by one of a thoroughbred caste, full of fire and beauty. The Bell-founder and Messenger rump, straight and almost level, and the heavy hindquarter, with its elevated croup and whirlbone, have given way to a rounded drooping rump, tail much lower set on, and dropping off

toward the quarters, and thighs which are of great muscular solidity, and heavily covered low down upon the gaskin, and resting on a hock generally good, having a large and powerful tendon extending upward therefrom.

The Star Hambletonian is usually 15 to  $15\frac{3}{4}$  hands, close-ribbed and strong in body, back, barrel, forearm and quarters, but deficient and greatly lacking below the knees and hock. They are shaky in their forelegs, in very many cases over on their knees, have thin hoofs, and are often subject to unsound feet. How general is the complaint that this one or that one has suffered in his feet! How almost universal, as compared with other lines of descent from Abdallah and Messenger!

The general good nature and kindly temper of the Bellfounder has in large part given way to a manner not remarkable for strict amiability. Many of them are in reality unapproachable by any stranger. Hiram Woodruff found Dexter an overmatch for him occasionally. I never yet saw a member of this family, or of that of Everett, that did not show great *positiveness* of character and disposition.

The Star-Hambletonians have a ready natural trotting gait, and go with certain peculiarities which distinguish them from any family I have seen. They have a wider or more open gait, and go with their hind feet further apart than any other family of Hambletonians, as a general rule. They have a thigh of such extra length as to show their Duroc cross, although not long from the hip to the hock. The whirlbone or buttock-joint is let down, so that the propelling power of the muscles hangs lower on the gaskin or hock than in other Duroc crosses; hence the gait, though wide open, is not the Duroc gait. The Star gait is well known, resulting from a union of two organizations, which makes them unlike any other family. When they trot by the halter, or at moderate rate of speed, the hind leg does not seem to swing on the whirlbone as in other families, but swings straight from the hip-joint—a peculiarity that is very noticeable. When the rate of speed, however, is accelerated, they depart from this hip-swinging motion, and lift the hind foot squarely, and carry every foot in true and perfect trotting poise, not too close under the body, but even on each side, and their trotting motion is the perfection of accuracy. Their stroke is rapid and powerful, not far reaching or dwelling, but steady and true, quick and even in every stroke.

Startle measures  $38\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and  $22\frac{3}{4}$  inches in length from hip to hock, and stifle to hock. Aberdeen measures 39 and 23 inches, and Wilkins Micawber 39 and  $23\frac{1}{4}$  inches; and he is a little wider gaited,

to my eye, than either of the others. Huntress is  $39\frac{1}{2}$  and  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and comes from a sire that adds to the length of each of these measurements. The influence of the Duroc blood is shown in each case in the increased length of thigh; Huntress and Wilkins Micawber each acknowledging their double cross of that blood. Aberdeen has a forearm 17 inches, and a front cannon-bone  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches; Wilkins Micawber  $19\frac{1}{2}$  and  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and Startle 20 and 11 inches.

Having had an opportunity for a close inspection of a son of American Star, I am enabled to present some points from his anatomy which will go far toward explaining the origin of all these departures from the Hambletonian original. Goldsmith's Star, by Seely's American Star, dam by Fox Hunter, is a dark bay horse, about 15 hands high, and measures as follows: Hip to hock 38 inches, thigh  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches, front cannon-bone  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches, forearm  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches. He has the round, drooping rump, and muscular quarters and thighs.

This family, like that with which this chapter began, are not noted for an anatomy that indicates great trotting leverage. They have a close or pony-built form, and short-reaching extremities; yet the vigor and power of their trotting action is of the highest order. They go with an energy and momentum that is almost fearful. It is often remarked by those who drove Dexter, that it was enough to make the man pale with trepidation, and cause his heart to beat quick with fear, when the horse took the bit and started to trot in earnest. The immense force with which he moved was also apparent in the very shaking of the ground on which he trod.

This all very clearly points to the immense muscular organization which forms the distinguishing feature of this famed family. Powerful tendons, strongly imbedded in immense and powerful muscles, are displayed by every member of the family; and here is the lodgment of their wonderful power. In regard to the readiness or naturalness of their trotting gait, I will here say that while they seem to have much of this, they do not display it so readily as those that show the Duroc conformation more completely; and while those that have attained to full age, and are the produce of Hambletonian himself, and also such of the produce of Dictator as I have seen not of full age, trot at easy or slow speed, with the swinging gait which I have described, I have seen young ones of the produce of Wilkins Micawber, Jay Gould and Startle that lifted the hind foot up squarely, and showed great muscular vigor and activity, bending both the stifle and at the whirlbone. Such is uniformly the motion of all when at high

speed; but I have not yet seen one that did not, at slow speed, swing the hind leg from the hip, as though there was difficulty in bending it. I say, without hesitation, that I know of no animals which display such perfection of muscular action as is shown by the members of this family. It would seem that in them the intelligence and skill of human production had reached perfection, if the quality can only be maintained and transmitted to or engrafted upon other families exempt from the defects which mar this otherwise highly-formed family.

It can not have escaped the observation of any of my readers thus far, that there is a great similarity—an almost identity—between the Star-Hambletonians and the Everett family. Their gaits, however, are not alike. The Everetts are not Star-gaited, and they could not be without a Duroc thigh, or its equivalent; but in all other respects there seems to be a complete identity between the two families, except it be in one other particular—to which I may as well here refer, but of which I shall speak further—in this, that not over one son of Hambletonian and a Star mare has yet produced a trotter capable of trotting in 2:20 or better. There are nearly thirty entire sons of Hambletonian whose dams were Star mares; yet only three of these have produced trotters in the 2:30 list, and a small number of such stand to the credit of the family. Everett stands ahead of all the list combined.

It may not be out of place here to suggest that the appearance of Judge Fullerton—a large, dark chestnut gelding, with white face and legs, looking more like Dexter than any horse on the turf—and that of many others of the produce of Everett, goes far to suggest the same departure from the uniformity of color which prevails in the Hambletonian family that is visible in those of the Star cross; also, that Everett and those of this Star cross, though of the smallest of the Hambletonian family themselves, commonly breed out large horses, in most cases equal in size to the produce of 16-hand sires.

Whatever may be the peculiarity of the blood forces that mark the differences between the Bellfounder-Messenger families and those of the Everett and Star families, the difference between the two latter is simply one of degree—a mere matter of intensity or accumulated force of blood in the last over the other.

## DEXTER.

Dexter has been so often described, that the public are familiar with his appearance. A dark bay or brown gelding, with a white stripe the

full length and width of his face, and four white legs; 15 hands 1 inch high; his head as finely cut in its outline as that of Australian or Bonnie Scotland; an eye that does not stand out with the prominence of the Abdallah eye in Hambletonian, but one that sparkles with a glance of fire that speaks of that which is back of the orb; his mane and tail are medium in fullness, and in form and blood-like appearance he is hardly surpassed by that of any thoroughbred of full age in the country. His record of 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$  is familiar to all.

#### STARTLE.

Startle is a bright bay horse, 15 hands high, with a white face, and white, or mostly white, legs, light mane and tail. His feet and legs are not so good as those of Dexter, and have been always regarded as quite faulty; but from the knee and hock upward he is a horse in perfection, and no other term will express it. He has not so much of the high, blood-like appearance about the head as is shown by Dexter, but his barrel, shoulder, forearm, quarters and thigh are, beyond question, the *nonpareil* of all stallions. He is a little horse, but in reality a little giant. His quarters are great; and the muscle that extends down the thigh and gaskin is the finest and firmest to the touch that ever came under my observation. He is the only horse I have seen that can show, in this respect, alongside of Joe Elliott, the son of Everett, and these two are very much alike. He is also owned by Robert Bonner, and is a horse well worthy such a munificent ownership. I have seen young colts (weanlings) by him, and must confess that they show not only the same muscular and wiry form, but also a very ready inclination to trot. They also show the white faces and legs. His speed is claimed to have been displayed in a trial in which he showed a mile in 2:19. His owner never allowing any of his horses to contend in races—the only contests that are calculated to call out the greatest efforts of such organisms—we must content ourselves with the belief that, under proper stimulus, and after the usual training to which horses are in our day subjected, he would attain to a very high rate of speed, if his feet and legs did not fail him before he reached the maximum of speed to which his otherwise powerful organization would carry him.

#### JAY GOULD.

Jay Gould is a bright bay horse, of fine mould and finish, 15 hands 2 inches in height, rather light-appearing in form, but of great and

powerfully formed quarters, and a tolerably fair set of limbs. His head is a finely formed one, and he has a face that indicates the high degree of intelligence that in so great a measure marks this branch of the family. He has trotted twenty heats in 2:30 or better, and reached a record of 2:21½, and in addition is credited with one son, King Philip, a young horse only five years old, that has trotted nine heats in 2:30 or better, and reached a record of 2:21. It is worthy of remark in this connection that Jay Gould differs from all the other sons of this cross in having a short thigh—only 22 inches in length—which is two inches shorter than other stallions I have seen of the same cross. This can only be accounted for by the possible fact that in his grandam there was a much larger quantum of Messenger blood than her pedigree discloses. His success in the stud, and his own great excellence, together with this shortening of the Duroc thigh, incline me to the belief that he is very strong in Messenger blood. He certainly stands first on the list of stallions produced by Hambletonian from Star mares.

## ABERDEEN.

Aberdeen is a dark bay horse, 15 hands 3 inches in height, very short in the back, a higher and less drooping rump, and has the appearance of a very short, compact and heavy horse. He weighs over 1,200 lbs., and is a horse of a powerful back and loin, but more of a beefy-looking animal, and has less of the finely-drawn muscular development that appears in others of this family. I would say that he had stouter and sounder feet and legs than some others of this cross, but his legs are far from satisfactory. They do not show the blood-like appearance that would be expected from the blood of his dam—if her claim stopped even with her Star sire—and certainly not what should be expected from a double cross of Abdallah. I even say, if this horse has two crosses of Abdallah, that famous blood has not stood out for its own individuality as in most other cases. He has very little of the distinctive Abdallah appearance. His dam was the celebrated Widow Machree, one of the most noted trotters of the Star family. Aberdeen, as a sire, has acquired some reputation, mainly on the produce of one mare, from which he has several likely young colts; but I must say, in all candor, that were I searching for a young sire to perpetuate the name of Hambletonian, I should not stop with the family of the Widow Machree.



## WILKINS MICAWBER.

I confess to a kindly liking for Wilkins Micawber. He was a stout-looking, rich dark bay horse, 15 hands 3 inches in height, with white face and legs—which ornamental colors he transmitted, like his brother Startle, to his offspring. He had the same round and sloping rump, low and heavy quarters, and muscular form that I have before described, and the best hock, with the flattest, cleanest and best set of legs I have yet seen on a stallion of this composition. I have seen some of his produce that give indications of trotting capacity, although he had, at the time I saw him, none older, I believe, than three or four years. I have seen some of his weanlings that, like those of Startle, created in my mind a strong belief that he would produce trotters. I have not often seen a young one of more of the wiry, game-like appearance, with the most muscular and facile use of limbs in the true trotting direction, than I saw in one or two of the offspring of Wilkins Micawber. His dam was evidently a very superior mare, and had for her maternal ancestor a mare by Nigger Lance, a son of Lance, the highly bred son of American Eclipse. He died in July, 1876, leaving some promising descendants.

## DICTATOR.

Not having seen this brother of the famous Dexter, I am confined to an estimate of him as disclosed by his produce. He is a small horse, only 15 hands high, but he breeds large. His produce are generally dark in color, and have not so much of the white markings as appear in some others of the same family. They have the same motion in the hind leg—swinging from the hip—to which I have referred, and it seems to mark all ages in his produce. They all show much of the Star conformation, but not in so great a degree as those of the first cross, and their thigh proportions indicate clearly that they have the open Star gait. It is claimed that he has produce capable of trotting in 2:30 or better, although there has been no public proof of this capacity. In Kentucky, where he has access to mares of pure trotting qualities of the Clay, Pilot and Mambrino Chief families, he will have opportunities to call out his best qualities as a breeder; and if he has the real elements of blood which are capable of transmitting the high trotting qualities of his family, and blending the same successfully with the current bloods of Kentucky breeding, he will perpetuate, and, perhaps, add to the lustre of the fame which

already attaches to this very noted branch of the Hambletonian family.

## SOCRATES.

Socrates is a bright bay horse, and seems to have, in some degree, departed from the standard of the Star cross in regard to size and other particulars. He has more of the Duroc than the other elements that make up that cross, and is a tall, rangy-looking horse, of 16 hands in height, and fine proportions. His feet and legs have the appearance of having taken strongly after the Star family, and I should say he was cut out for speed as well as true trotting action. He was regarded, in the early part of his career, as very fast, and I have seen a letter from an able and very popular writer, in which he said Socrates could trot a mile on a red-hot track without burning his feet. I suppose the heat referred to was most likely that of the imagination, and as all record of such performance is wanting, we are compelled simply to take the horse as a fine specimen of a family that has been at all times noted for the number of its distinguished members, and the lustre of their achievements. He is now twelve years old, and should have given us some proof by this time of his quality on the track and in the stud.

## IRVINGTON AND LELAND.

These two brothers are of very distinguished breeding, and if any stallion of the Star cross shall prove a successful sire, it would seem that it should be one or both of these. I have not seen either of them, but am assured by gentlemen who have studied horses somewhat as I have studied them, that they are really fine horses. Leland has been described to me as one of the finest sons of Hambletonian, and showing much of the form and quality of that great sire. He is owned at the Stony Ford breeding establishment of Charles Backman. The dam of these two stallions was Imogene, by Seely's American Star; second dam Curry Abdallah, by Abdallah; third dam by imp. Bellfounder; fourth dam by Royalist; fifth dam by Hardware, son of imp. Messenger. The great combination of the blood of Messenger and Bellfounder, and particularly that of Abdallah, in the composition of these two stallions, should excite the brightest expectations as to their future greatness as sires in this remarkably well bred family. As yet they are too young to have anything on that score positively known. Irvington was foaled in 1870, and Leland in 1875.

## ROMULUS.

This is a Western stallion, owned by S. W. Wheelock, of Moline, Ill., and is by Hambletonian; first dam by American Star, second dam by Mambrino Chief. This is a double installment of the Duroc blood, but combined with that of Messenger, and all coming through channels that always display the royal trotting quality. He is regarded as a horse of real excellence, and a favorite in the region where he has been kept. He was foaled in 1868.

## WALLKILL CHIEF.

This horse was foaled in 1865, and died when about eight years old. His dam was Dolly Mills by American Star, and his second dam said to be by a horse called Young Messenger, and supposed to be by a son of Bush Messenger. By the record he stands the most successful sire of those bred from this cross. Although allowed only a short career in the stud, he has left as proof of his capacity in this line, Great Eastern, with record of 2:19, and 26 heats in 2:30 or better; also record under saddle of 2:15 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and 6 heats in 2:30 or better; Dick Swiveller, 2:23, and 19 heats in 2:30 or better; and Roman Chief, 2:30—the only son of Hambletonian and a Star mare that has produced a trotter with record below 2:20, and with three performers in 2:30 or better.

## MASTERLODE.

This is the only other son of this cross that has produced a 2:30 trotter. He is the sire of Edward with record of 2:30, and it is worthy of remark that his grandam was by Abdallah. In view of the great superiority of the first cross, and the large number of stallions thus bred, it is very remarkable that so small a number have thus far proved successful sires, and such were well backed up in the richest trotting blood beyond their Star dams. The fact is both suggestive and interesting.

The list of Star-Hambletonians is a large one, and embraces the following:

Aberdeen .....	foaled 1866	Jay Gould.....	foaled 1864
Dictator .....	" 1863	Jack Shepard.....	" 1863
Socrates .....	" 1866	Norwood .....	" 1868
Gauntlet .....	" 1867	Wilkins Micawber .....	" 1868
Romulus.....	" 1868	Independent .....	" 1859
Sweepstakes .....	" 1867	Hambletonian Star.....	" 1865
Squire Talmage.....	" 1866	Startle.....	" 1867

Twilight.....	foaled 1868	Masterlode.....	foaled 1868
Enfield .....	" 1868	Bolton.....	" 1867
Echo .....	" 1866	Kearsage .....	" 1864
Major Winfield.....	" 1866	Wallkill Chief.....	" 1865
Warwick .....	" 1868	Irvington .....	" 1870
Leland .....	" 1875		

All of which were from mares by Seely's American Star, except Echo, whose dam was by Magnolia, a son of Star. Of all this long list Wallkill Chief, Jay Gould and Masterlode have foals with a record of 2:30—the former three, and the latter one each—which is truly remarkable in view of the ages of the several stallions above named, and the achievements of those of the first cross, which have in part been shown, and will more fully appear in the following list, all being from mares by Seely's American Star, except one, and she was by a son of Star:

Dexter, by Hambletonian....	2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$	Frank Wood, by Volunteer.....	2:24
Nettie, by Hambletonian....	2:18	(dam by son of Star)	
Huntress, by Volunteer.....	2:20 $\frac{3}{4}$	Carrie, by Volunteer.....	2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Powers, by Volunteer.....	2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$	Driver, by Volunteer.....	2:25
Jay Gould, by Hambletonian..	2:21 $\frac{1}{2}$	Orange Blossom, by Middletown	2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bella, by Hambletonian....	2:22	California Dexter, by Volunteer.	2:27
(grandam by Star)		Harvest Queen, by Hambletonian	2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$
Trio, by Volunteer .....	2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$	Sister, by Volunteer.....	2:30 $\frac{1}{2}$
May Bird, by Geo. Wilkes ....	2:24		

From which it will appear that only three of the sons of Hambletonian have shown any success with Star mares, namely Volunteer, Middletown and George Wilkes—each of which shows great similarity in his own composition—and of these, Volunteer is the only one that has more than a single representative in the 2:30 list; he there showing another proof of his close similarity in breeding qualities to his imperial sire—from all of which facts we may draw an instructive lesson.

The remainder of this chapter must be devoted to the deeply interesting consideration of the blood forces that have been marked with such rare success, and such peculiar manifestations in combination with the blood and organism of Hambletonian. Owing to the fact that Hambletonian lived in the same county in which Seely's American Star spent the greater part of his life, the opportunities for a union of the two bloods were rendered easy and abundant. As the chief fame of Hambletonian rests with his sons, so the reputation of American Star is chiefly derived from his daughters. He died in

Orange county, N. Y., in 1861, and the following is a partial list of his immediate offspring, well known to the public in that region:

Jenny Hawkins, sister to Magnolia.  
 Widow Machree, dam of Aberdeen.  
 Julia Machree, dam of Enfield.  
 Montgomery Maid, dam of Bolton.  
 Lady Sanford, dam of Jay Gould.  
 Lady Brown, dam of Wilkins Micawber.  
 Lady Sears, dam of Huntress, Sister and Trio.  
 Dolly Mills, dam of Wallkill Chief.  
 Lizzie Walker, dam of Startle.  
 Lady Fallis, dam of Socrates and Norwood.  
 Dam of Dexter.  
 Lady Whitman.  
 Silvertail.  
 Goshen Maid.  
 Peerless.  
 Dam of Squire Taimage.  
 One Eye.  
 Maggie Kernochan.  
 Emma Mills, dam of Independent and Sweepstakes.  
 Dam of Nettie.  
 Laura Keene, dam of Jack Shepard.  
 Imogene, dam of Irvington and Leland.

#### SONS.

Magnolia.  
 Pierson's Star.  
 Conklin's Star.  
 Goldsmith's Star.  
 Abdallah Star (a grandson).  
 Henry, sire of Lady Star.  
 Star, sire of Bonner and John D. Benton.  
 Lefevre's Star, sire of dam of Frank Wood.  
 Star of Catskill.

He also numbers the following trotters, with records as follows:

Bonner, by son of Star.....	2:23
Lady Star, by Henry, sire of Star.....	2:24
Bonner, by Star of Catskill, son of Star.....	2:24 $\frac{3}{4}$
Brown Dick, by son of Star.....	2:25 $\frac{1}{4}$
Magnolia, by Magnolia, son of Star .....	2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$
Widow Machree.....	2:29
Bolly Lewis.....	2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$
Star, by Conklin's Star, sire of Star .....	2:30

The characteristics of all this family have been already clearly pointed out in the effect they have had on the Hambletonian blood,

in the generally reduced size of the animal, the sloping rump, very muscular quarters and thighs, and defective legs and feet, many of them being over at the knees, and exceedingly shaky and unsound below the knee and hock, and the frequency of white faces and white legs. In all these particulars it must be apparent that the uniformity of color and markings which distinguish the Bellfounder blood has been greatly overcome by this cross, and that the unrivaled soundness of feet and legs of the Messenger, Bellfounder and Abdallah families has encountered a serious and deeply-seated blood defect in the Star family, which their own uniform and marvelous superiority has not been able to overcome.

Furthermore, the straight rump and elevated croup has been compelled to yield, in great part, to one that droops and carries the seat of power, in a greatly concentrated form, to a point lower down on the haunches and nearer to the hocks. From what source did American Star obtain qualities so marked, so positive and so powerful as to overcome so much of the form and vital forces of the staunchest family that ever trod the soil of the American continent?

Seely's American Star was foaled in 1837, and lived to the age of 24 years. He was by Stockholm's American Star (a son of Duroc), a horse that, we are told, was foaled in 1822, and owned and run as a race-horse, and in 1836, at the age of 14 years, produced Seely's American Star. He left no other produce to distinguish him, and left no other traces of the very remarkable qualities which have distinguished the second Star and all of his descendants to the present day. We must, therefore, look to the dam of Seely's American Star. She was the mare known as Sally Slouch, by Henry, and her dam was by imported Messenger. Of this mare we have no other information than that furnished by the two lines of blood from which she came. Her sire was the very noted champion of the South, in 1823, that ran against American Eclipse, on Long Island, the most memorable race of American turf history. American Eclipse, it will be remembered, was a large horse, 15 hands 2 to 3 inches in height, and of great power and substance—a son of Duroc, and a grandson of Messenger—and was matched by the champions of the Northern running turf against **anything** the Virginia or Southern gentlemen could bring against him. They brought Henry, son of the great Sir Archy, dam by Diomed. If Sir Archy was by Diomed, Henry would be a double grandson of imported Diomed. Diomed was sire of Duroc; but like parentage does not always make like blood or like descend-

ants—a lesson which some breeders and writers are slow to learn. The following description of Henry is copied from *Golden's Magazine*, 1834:

HENRY is of a dark sorrel or chestnut color, with one hind foot white and a small star in the forehead; his mane and tail about two shades lighter than that of his body. He has been represented as fifteen hands and one inch high, but having taken his measure, *his exact height is only fourteen hands three and a half inches*. His form is compact, bordering upon what is termed "pony-built," with good shoulders, fine, clean head, and all those points which constitute a fine forehand; his barrel is strong and well ribbed up toward the hip; his waist rather short; chine bone strong, rising or arched a little over the loin, indicative of ability to carry weight; sway short; the loin full and strong, *haunches strong and well let down; hindquarters somewhat high, and sloping off from the coupling to the croup; thighs full and muscular*, without being fleshy; hocks or houghs strong, wide and pretty well let down; legs remarkably fine, with a full proportion of bone; back sinew or Achilles tendon large, and well detached from the cannon-bone; stands firm, clear and even; moves remarkably well with his feet in line; *possesses great action and muscular power, and, although rather under size, the exquisite symmetry of his form indicates uncommon strength*.

It will be remembered, that in the memorable race with Eclipse, Henry ran his four miles and won the first heat in 7 minutes 37½ seconds; Eclipse winning the next two heats and the race. The owner of Henry, Col. Johnson, styled in those days the Napoleon of the Turf, was not present at the race; and so confident were he and the Southern party that Henry was superior to Eclipse, that they immediately challenged the owner of Eclipse to run another race, for a stake of \$20,000, and the challenge was declined. It has always been claimed that Henry ran with overweight for his age, viz., 108 pounds, lacking nearly a month of being four years of age. According to the present regulations of Northern courses, a four-year-old should only carry 104 pounds; and, according to the regulations existing at that time in Virginia and the Southern States, 100 pounds was the required weight. So it will be seen that this undersized horse, not yet quite four years old, was made to carry from four to eight pounds overweight. Hence it was always claimed by many that the performance of Henry, though beaten in the race, stamped him as the best race-horse of his day. It may be added, that he continued on the turf for two years longer, and was matched against Flirtilla for four mile heats, in September, 1825, and *went lame in his feet, and was withdrawn from the turf for that cause*.

I think it will not be difficult now to determine the source of all

the elements that constituted Seely's American Star, and that give to the Hambletonians of the Star cross their very remarkable peculiarities, which we have noticed in the foregoing pages. We clearly recognize the Duroc element in the elongated thigh, and the wide, open gait of the entire Star family. From the Messenger and Bellfounder blood came all the trotting quality which the Stars possessed; for although I sometimes speak of the trotting quality of the Duroc blood, I refer only to a conformation of physical proportions that adapted them to the trotting gait. I think this is all the trotting quality that Duroc had, or could transmit. As to the Henry blood, which was a very near and positive controlling element in Star, I do not believe there was one particle of trotting quality in it, except the transcendent power of muscle which was the great propelling power of the animal; the form or manner of whose going, however, was regulated and controlled by the operation of the two other blood forces that entered into the combination. Henry stood for the most of his life, after his racing days were over, in the vicinity of New York, and left, in that State and New Jersey, many descendants, but never produced a trotter, or a sire or dam of trotters, without the aid of other crosses, from which the trotting inclination was derived.

We often hear of the great value of the blood of Diomed in the trotter. I do not think there was a particle of trotting blood in any member of the Diomed family except in this—that this family, like other thoroughbred families, was full of courage and stamina, and of such a nervous temperament and organization as to compel speed at whatever gait they chose. I here recur again to the words of the writer before referred to:

Are we to believe that all this concentrated King Herod blood in the sire of Dexter's dam was neutralized by one cross of Messenger in Star's grandam?

No, sir; if there was any neutralizing, it was the blood of Henry that neutralized all other. But it did not neutralize the other blood forces; it asserted its predominance in certain places in the outward form, in the diminished stature, in the defective feet and legs, and in the muscular conformation of the quarters, and in many other particulars. But Duroc rarely relinquishes his right to insert a long thigh and a wide, open gait, in any combination whatever; and the trotting quality of the Messenger and Bellfounder blood—that which imparts a tendency or inclination to trot—refused to yield, in the first and second, and even in the third crosses, to that of the almost invincible Henry; and, in my opinion, the question as to which of these two will be



supreme in future combinations, simply depends on the question of reinforcements. If the Henry blood receives any, even very small, augmentation, from in-breeding or otherwise, it will certainly come out ahead.

As it is clearly my belief that the dam of Everett was a mare of Henry blood, if I be asked for my opinion as to why Everett has been more successful than all the Star-Hambletonian stallions combined, I answer, that the blood of Henry in the Star cross being reinforced by its kindred Diomed blood in the Duroc strain, gave it more absolute sway. And, furthermore, the reason why the Star cross found such a happy nick for trotting purposes with that of Hambletonian, was on account of the overpowering reinforcement of Messenger blood, augmented by its kindred strains of Bellfounder, concentrated in the Old Imperial. And from this point, thus gained, I would teach the lesson derived from this most interesting subject: My advice is, take your Star and Hambletonian-Star mares to Volunteer and Middletown, Wilkes and Administrator, Florida and Kickerbocker, and take your mares by these stallions to Startle and Leland, Jay Gould and Aberdeen; but do not take Star to Star. As Henry was the dynamite that propelled the charge, and Messenger and Duroc the gun of long range and steady aim that directed the shot, beware lest the dynamite overpower your artillery; for in such a case you know not in what direction the force of the explosive may be expended. Bear in mind that while, in the first great contest, Henry came within one of beating the Duroc Messenger, there were many who thought he could beat him easily if he tried again. In my opinion, if the trial be continued, the triumph may be on that side. The Henry blood is only a trotting element when held in proper subjection by that of Messenger and Bellfounder.

Seely's American Star lived to the age of twenty-four years and died fifteen years before the death of Hambletonian, so that it may be almost said he belonged to a period or generation anterior to that of Hambletonian. He numbers to-day eight lineal descendants in the 2:30 list—two of which were his own produce, and six by sons, but not a single 2:30 trotter by a grandson. The trotting quality did not seem to retain the power to maintain its supremacy beyond two generations. The once depreciated Clay family continue to bring out trotters in 2:25 in the fourth generation from Henry Clay, and in the sixth from young Bashaw, the founder of the family.

## SONS OF EDWARD EVERETT.

Edward Everett has not a large number of sons that are stallions. One of the most promising colts I have seen anywhere was, when I saw him, two years old—now four. He is from Ruth, by Hambletonian; her dam, a fast Canadian mare, known as the Drummond mare, purchased by Mr. Bonner near Montreal. She trotted in 2:26½ against Live Oak. Ruth, the dam, is also a fast trotting mare, and she presents the blood of Hambletonian in good form, and in her son by Everett there is presented an in-bred stallion, with excellent form, a very muscular organization, and a long line of real trotting instinct, which would seem to have blended in fine degree. This colt will most likely be no discredit to his parentage.

He has another son, out of Mildred, by Hambletonian; 2d dam, Linda, by the Abel horse, son of Smith Burr's Napoleon; 3d dam, represented to be by Ohio Eclipse. This should also be a horse of trotting and breeding excellence.

He has another son in Canada, out of Lady Shannon, by Harris' Hambletonian. He was bred by a gentleman in New York, and is said to be very fast. He has another son named Montezuma; his dam is by Alexander's Abdallah, and he was a fast three and four-year-old. From his breeding, he should make a valuable stallion.

## CHAPTER XII.

### ALEXANDER'S ABDALLAH AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

FAME belongs not alone to the living—the dead, although they shine not with living splendor, deserve honorable mention when the world has been benefited by their lives.

In the year 1851, there lived, in the village of Warwick, in Orange county, N. Y., a little bay mare, 15 hands 1 inch in height, of a gamy, wiry look, that had endured ill usage, and could only stand on three of her feet, the other leg having been broken or dislocated at the ankle. She was a trotter of some repute, but accident and misfortune had left her in the disabled state above described. She was familiarly known in the vicinity of her owner, Mr. Lewis J. Sutton, as Katy Darling, and often trotted, cripple though she was, in about three minutes, and won small purses, made up for these occasions. Of her pedigree, or breeding, it must be said, nothing can be stated with any degree of certainty. She has been said to have been a daughter of Bay Roman, and that her dam was by Young Mambrino, son of Mambrino. Bay Roman was by imp. Roman, from the Pinckney Mare, said to have been by Hickory, and Hickory's dam was by Mambrino—but it must be stated that no part of this alleged pedigree of the mare can be satisfactorily authenticated; I give it as it has come down, and can only add, that the qualities of the mare go as far as anything else to render it probable. She was raised in the vicinity of the city of New York, and was, beyond doubt, highly bred. In her crippled and almost deformed condition, she was sent to a young stallion, then two years and three months old, and was one of four mares received by him as a two-year-old. That stallion was the afterward celebrated Hambletonian.

On the 22d day of September, 1852, this mare foaled, and her colt grew to be a nice bay stallion about 15 hands 2 inches in height, with one hind foot white, and was a natural trotter by his mother's

side in his colthood. He was much admired, and sold for \$500, when one year and five months old, to Mr. Hezekiah Hoyt and Major Edsall, both of the same county. Subsequently he became the exclusive property of Mr. Edsall, and was known as Edsall's Hambletonian.

In 1856, at the age of four years, from a mare by old Abdallah, he produced Goldsmith Maid. When seven years old, he was sold to Joseph Love, of Cynthiana, Ky., for about \$3,000, and taken to the latter place about the 1st of March, 1859. He made four seasons at his new Kentucky home, the first two at \$25, and the last two at \$30. In the fall of 1862 he was sold to R. A. Alexander, the distinguished breeder and proprietor of "Woodburn Farm," in Woodford county, Ky., the price paid being the stallion Forest Temple and \$2,000 in money. Among the produce of his first season in Kentucky was the bay stallion Jim Monroe; and he has produced Lady Monroe, with a record of 2:30½, and D. Monroe, with a record of 2:34. The second season, from Lydia Talbot by Taylor Messenger, he produced Pacing Abdallah, now owned by W. H. Wilson, of Cynthiana. During his first season with Mr. Alexander, in 1863, from a mare by Mambrino Chief, he produced Almont, and during the next season, from a mare also by Mambrino Chief, he produced Thorndale, 2:22¼. Besides the above, in his brief term of stud service, he produced Rosalind, now with a record of 2:21¾; Major Edsall, with a record of 2:29; and St. Elmo, with a record of 2:30; Belmont, Abdallah Pilot, and others. After passing into the hands of the proprietor of "Woodburn," his name was changed to that of Alexander's Abdallah. As he was a young stallion, and not yet famous as a sire of trotters, he is not credited with a very large list of produce. Before any of his sons or daughters had become known to fame, their sire—afterward to become as celebrated as, and to add additional lustre to the renown of, Hambletonian—was cut off; and in his premature death, the horrors of civil war added another to the irreparable losses this country has sustained in our memorable internecine strife. On the 2d day of February, 1865, about 6 o'clock, P. M., a band of guerrillas, under one Marion, visited "Woodburn," and took several horses, among them Bay Chief, a son of Mambrino Chief, and Abdallah. They encamped about twelve miles from "Woodburn," where they were attacked by a Federal force early the next morning, and routed, the horses being recaptured. Bay Chief was shot in several places during the fight, and died from his wounds in about ten days. Abdallah was seized by a Federal soldier, who refused to release him. The horse was unshod,

and in no condition for severe usage; nevertheless, in this plight, he was ridden by the soldier over the roughest of stony and hilly roads, nearly fifty miles on that day, and, becoming exhausted, was turned loose on the highway, and found, on the next day, in a most deplorable state. He was taken to Lawrenceburgh, but could go no further, and was seized with pneumonia, from which he died in a few days. Who can estimate the value of the life that was thus thrown away through ignorance and perversity? If Hambletonian had left no descendants other than the produce of this son, his renown as a trotting sire would have claimed a bright page in American turf history. The record of the prowess of one daughter on the trotting turf, and the fame of one son as a trotting sire, are sufficient to make a turf history for a nation. The splendid achievements of the one, and the rich and varied successes of the other, show what marvelous qualities were carried by the sire that was cut off in the beginning of a career that would have shed a lustre on the breeding annals of this country, and probably not have been surpassed by that of any stallion we have ever produced.

The following list of his own produce deserves particular notice :

GOLDSMITH MAID.

MAJOR EDSALL.

WOOD'S HAMBLETONIAN.

PACING ABDALLAH.

SAINT ELMO.

ABDALLAH PILOT.

EWALT'S ABDALLAH.

BELMONT.

THORNDALE.

ALMONT.

GOLDSMITH MAID,

The Queen of the Trotting Turf, was foaled in 1857, and is now nineteen years old. She was bred by John B. Decker, of Sussex county, N. J. Her dam was one of those yellow-bay mares so common in the produce of old Abdallah. She was undersized, fretful, and of a nervous temperament, and up to the age of six years had performed no work of any kind, except to run occasional races about and on the farm, for the amusement of the boys. In 1863 she was sold by Mr. Decker for \$260; the purchaser selling her again, on the same day, to Mr. Tompkins, for \$360; and she was soon afterward bought by Mr. Alden Goldsmith, for \$600. The eye of the practical horseman discovered

that she was worth the handling. He discovered her ability, and soon brought the world to a knowledge of her value. Under his careful and patient management, and the skillful drivers employed by him, she soon displayed such speed and extraordinary qualities of game and endurance, that he was able to sell her, at about the age of eleven years, for the sum of \$20,000. The purchasers were B. Jackman and Mr. Budd Doble, and, under the guidance of the latter, she has steadily advanced in a career of fame that is without a parallel in the history of the trotting turf. She was subsequently sold, by the two gentlemen last named, to H. N. Smith, for the sum of \$37,000, and yet remains his property. She has been matched against all the great trotters of her period; and, while she has occasionally lost a race, she has ultimately vanquished all competitors, and steadily lowered the record for trotting performances, and, at the age of eighteen, marked the marvelous, and thus far unapproachable, record of a mile in 2:14.

Twice during the year 1876 she trotted in a race in 2:15, and although in her first race against the renowned Smuggler she was beaten, she by no means surrendered her queenly sceptre, for again, at Buffalo, she asserted her supremacy in the three fastest successive heats on record. Proudly does she command the sympathy and applause of all beholders when she hurls at her powerful competitor the defiant challenge, "You may become King, but I am yet Queen."

It were useless to mention the names and performances of others; there is no name that can be compared with that of the little bay mare; the fame and the radiance of all others pale before the brilliancy of a renown that followed her to the age of twenty years, and has been witnessed on every great course throughout the expanse of a continent. I subjoin a description of the Trotting Queen from the pen of one of our most accurate and capable writers:

Goldsmith Maid is a bay mare 15 $\frac{1}{4}$  hands, no white. She appears, at first glance, to be rather delicately made, but this conception is drawn from the form rather than the quality of her make-up. Her head and neck are very clean and blood-like; her shoulder sloping and well placed; middle piece tolerably deep at the girth, but so light in the waist as to give her a tucked-up appearance, and one would say a lack of constitution, but for the abundant evidence to the contrary; loin and coupling good; quarters of the greyhound order—broad and sinewy; her limbs are clean, fine-boned and wiry; feet rather small, but of good quality. She is high mettled, and takes an abundance of work without flinching. In her highest trotting form, drawn to an

edge, she is almost deer-like in appearance, and when scoring for a start and alive to the emergencies of the race, with her great flashing eye and dilated nostrils, she is a perfect picture of animation and living beauty. Her gait is long, bold and sweeping, and she is, in the hands of a driver acquainted with her peculiarities, a perfect piece of machinery. She seldom makes an out-and-out break, but frequently makes a skip, and has been accused of losing nothing in either case. Aside from the distinction of having trotted the fastest mile on record, she also enjoys the honor of making the fastest three consecutive heats ever won in a race, which renders any comments upon her staying qualities unnecessary.

She continued on the turf until past twenty years old, and after completing that age she closed her public career with the year 1877 by trotting during that year forty-one heats in 2:30 or better, and making a time record of 2:14½. Her record stands at the close of her career at 2:14, with 332 heats in 2:30 or better. Her record and her career are the marvel of the age.

#### MAJOR EDSALL.

This stallion was foaled in 1859. He has been owned in Ulster county, New York. He trotted two heats in 2:30 or better, and made a record of 2:29. He is now nineteen years old, and has no produce to add to the renown or swell the list of credits that follow the name of his sire. His dam was a Star mare. Was this the reason?

#### WOOD'S HAMBLETONIAN.

This stallion is a roan, and was foaled in 1858; his dam said to have been a Morgan mare. He is owned at Knoxville, Tioga county, Pa., by Messrs. W. C. & J. Wood. He has to his credit Billy Ray, record of 2:23¾, and 3 heats; Blue Mare, 2:23, and 14 heats; Kilburn Jim, 2:23, and 12 heats; Nancy Hackett, 2:27¾, and 2 heats.

#### PACING ABDALLAH.

This is an elegant and blood-like horse, dark bay in color, with fine head, neck, body and limbs, and showing more of the real, highly finished blood horse than either of the other two distinguished sons of Alexander's Abdallah. He was foaled in 1861, and, as he was a natural pacer and never trotted in his life, it was thought by the Kentuckians that he would never answer for the purpose of breeding roadsters. Hence he was used as a teaser for a jack until 1873, when twelve years old. Nevertheless, attracted by his high finish and blood-like form, he occasionally received a pretty good mare, more

for the reason that the saddle gaits were popular in that country than from any idea of raising trotters. In time it transpired that his produce were becoming trotters and showing promise of speed. From an old grey mare of unknown blood he produced Sand Hill, a horse that met with an accident and has been a cripple all his life, but has a record of 2:31. Several mares by Pacing Abdallah have been found to be superior roadsters, and have lately been put to breeding, and their produce from other trotting sires are giving great promise of success. Since his produce have begun to attract attention he has passed into the hands and ownership of W. H. Wilson, of Cynthiana, Kentucky, and bids fair to establish his claim to being the most noted instance of a pacing grandson of Hambletonian and a royal member of the household of the Trotting Queen.

## SAINT ELMO.

This was a brown horse, bred by R. A. Alexander, and the dam was called a mare of Bellfounder blood; but this goes for nothing, as there never was anything to show that she was in any way related to the Bellfounder blood. He made one heat in 2:30, and was since owned by Sprague and Akers, in Kansas, but has not contributed anything to the trotting reputation of the family. He was a good-looking horse, and his stock are generally of good size and form.

## ABDALLAH PILOT.

His dam was the mare **Blandina** by Mambrino Chief. He is sire of Red Jim, that at three years old had a record of 2:28, and two heats in 2:30 or better. He is a good-looking, well-formed horse, that shows strength and fine breeding.

## EWALT'S ABDALLAH.

Dixie, better known as Ewalt's Abdallah, is a chestnut stallion (no white), bred by Jos. H. Ewalt, Bourbon county, Kentucky, foaled May 15, 1861; 1st dam Jennie, by Cœur de Leon; 2d dam a French Canadian mare brought from Canada. Cœur de Leon was a French Canadian stallion, imported from Canada by Dr. L. Herr, of Lexington, Ky. The only position assumed by this horse is in being the sire of the dam of the stallion Don Carlos, by Alexander's Norman, which promises to be a fast trotter and a valuable stallion. An account of him will be given in the chapter on Blackwood and Swigert.



## BELMONT.

This horse was foaled in 1864. He was bred by R. A. Alexander, at Woodburn Farm, Kentucky, and is now owned by A. J. Alexander, the proprietor of Woodburn. His dam was Belle, by Mambrino Chief; 2d dam by Ohio Bellfounder. He is a light bay, with black points, of very compact form, and muscular body and superior limbs. He is a fine-appearing horse in harness, carrying his head and tail at fine elevation, and displaying great style and spirit. At one period he was regarded as the most promising stallion of the Blue Grass region; but he has not wholly maintained the high promise with which he started out—not so much because he has fallen below, as because the others have gone above. He is the sire of several very promising young trotters, and with many is at all times a favorite sire. He has to his credit Dick Moore, 2:29, and four heats in 2:30 or better; Nil Desperandum, 2:24½, and eleven heats; and Nutwood, 2:23½, and twenty heats in 2:30 or better. Belmont has no public record, but has shown himself to be a trotter worthy of his sire and his other distinguished kindred.

## THORNDALE.

Thorndale was foaled in May, 1865, was bred by Dr. J. R. Adams, near Georgetown, Ky., and sold, in 1868, to Edwin Thorne, Esq., of Dutchess county, N. Y. His first dam was a bay mare, foaled in 1860, by Mambrino Chief; second dam by a son of Potomac; and his third dam by Saxe Weimar; the two latter being thoroughbred crosses running back to imp. Diomed. Thorndale is a bright bay stallion, with white hind feet, 15 hands 1½ inches in height. His general appearance and make-up is Hambletonian—the only place where his Mambrino Chief blood stands out clearly to view is in his head, which is one inch longer, and across the hips, which, from centre to centre, are one inch wider than the Hambletonian standard. He shows great finish, and quality of the highest order. His form is what is called close and compact, and rather pony-built. He is exactly the same height on the withers and on the rump. His limbs are of the clean, flat and blood-like pattern; his forearm muscular, and his hock of the clearest and best model; and in the thighs, quarters and haunches he is exceedingly strong. A writer in the second volume of *The Horses of America*, says that “he has greater length from the point of the hip to the whirlbone, and thence to the hock, than any other trotting stallion known to the writer.” This is perhaps not quite correct. He



RAND-MEALLY-CC.

# THORNDALE,

Winner of the Stallion Championship of 1877.



is quite large in the outline and filling up of the hindquarters, but not so large as some others. In the triangle of the hindquarter, represented in the cut of Hambletonian by the lines H, F and G, he is respectively H 16, F 19, and G 27. From his hip to his hock he is only  $38\frac{1}{2}$ , which is short, but his thigh is 24 inches—in which his Mambrino Chief anatomy clearly appears. His quarter is very full; and while he is wide on the outside, at the stifle, he is also very full between the hind legs, and the great muscle comes down low, as it does in all the best ones of this family. His foreleg measure is  $11\frac{1}{2}$  and  $20\frac{1}{2}$ , from which it will appear that with the exception of his thigh he has not a long leverage; and his gait is just what might naturally be expected from so much muscle located as his is, and propelling such levers as carry him at a rate of speed which places him in the front rank of trotting stallions in this country. He has been described as a rattling trotter, having an excess of trotting action. His hind feet pass apart at a good width; his stroke is a rapid one, and his advance is almost terrific; he seems to have every foot in the air at the same time, and he comes like an avalanche. His body is so compact and his framework so close together, and at the same time so muscular, that he moves in every part at one and the same time. I should say that in him all his elements and blood forces blended in exact degree and in excellent harmony. His action, front and rear, is exactly alike, and if one is faulty the other is; and the only salient feature of his motion that stands out clear and above everything else is, that it is so abundant, so free, so ready and so powerful. I regard him too short from hip to hock. He lifts his hind feet and raises his hocks too high. Were he  $39\frac{1}{2}$  inches from hip to hock he would trot with more elasticity and less consumption of power. Further descriptive reference to Thorndale will be found in the succeeding sketch of Almont.

As this stallion was one of the first fruits of the union of the blood of Hambletonian and that of Mambrino Chief, he is deserving of a close study, and his history gives us the opportunity. On the 15th of July 1868, as a three-year-old, he trotted at Lexington, Ky., for a sweepstake for three-year-olds—mile heats, best three in five. He had five competitors, one of which was by American Clay, one by Iron Duke, one by Kentucky Clay, and one named Bismarck. He won in three straight heats, distancing his three former named opponents in the second heat; time,  $2:49\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $2:50$ , and  $2:55\frac{1}{2}$ . The day was intensely hot. He was then pronounced the most promising colt in the West. He was soon afterward purchased by Mr. Thorne, then as now a gentleman

largely identified with horse breeding interests in the State of New York. I should have mentioned in my chapter on Volunteer, that Mr. Thorne was with Mr. Goldsmith the joint purchaser of Volunteer and owned an interest in him for several years. He was also owner of Sentinel, the brother of Volunteer, that earned such a brilliant reputation in Kentucky. He has more recently been President of the State Agricultural Society of the State of New York, and is one of the most agreeable gentlemen of the State in which he lives. In October, 1868, Thorndale was exhibited at the Narragansett Park Fair, Providence, R. I., in harness, in class of stallions three years old and under five. He took the first premium over ten others. He also won the first premium in the stallion class for getting roadsters, at the New York State Fairs, at Albany, in 1871 and 1873. He was thenceforward kept for service at Mr. Thorne's place, Thorndale, Dutchess county, N. Y., and with the exception of a few weeks handling in the autumn of 1875, he was never hitched to a sulky until sent to Mr. Budd Doble to be trained on the 17th of May, 1876, after eight years continuous stud service. He had been kept regularly, and weighed 1,164 lbs. the day he left home. He was in such high condition that they were obliged to feed him light and work his flesh off—not giving him above four quarts of oats per day. On the 27th of June, forty-one days after going into Mr. Doble's hands, he received a trial, and was driven to the quarter pole in  $35\frac{1}{2}$ , half in 1:11, three-quarters in 1:49, and the mile in 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ . On July 17th he received his second trial, and a repeat as follows: Quarter 35, half 1:10, three-quarters 1:47, mile 2:24; quarters respectively, 35, 35, 37 and 37. Repeat in like manner in  $35\frac{1}{2}$ , 1:11, 1:48 and 2:24; quarters respectively,  $35\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $35\frac{1}{2}$ , 37 and 36—2:24—which was a performance truly great, considering the circumstances, and was sufficient to satisfy his owner and trainer that he was a safe horse.

These were the only trials he had before leaving Philadelphia to start on the grand Eastern circuit of 1876. He started at Buffalo in the 2:32 class on the 3d of August. It is not my purpose to fill up these pages with the reports of turf performances, but I can not better show the great qualities of the horse and family under consideration, than by copying from the *Spirit of the Times*, of August 12, 1876, the report of Thorndale's first great encounter, as follows:

#### THE 2:32 CLASS.

This was the first event on the regular card of the day, and it proved to be a most exciting race, and on its result large sums of money changed hands.

Albermarle had been winner in this class at Cleveland, in three straight heats, and was made favorite at Buffalo, Wednesday night, at odds of 3 to 2 against the field; but at the track, before the start, Thorndale, who had not taken part in the Cleveland race, was made first choice in the pools. This change may have been because of the reports of the speed of the bay stallion, or possibly because the little game for Albermarle not to win, which was clearly seen later, had leaked out, or been divulged for betting purposes. However this may be, the race was a most remarkable one, stamping Mr. Thorne's stock-horse as a trotter of the highest order of merit, and developing in Albermarle a horse, who, I think, will prove dangerous in any company; and remarkable also, I am sorry to say, for a detected fraud in its beginning, and for the most barefaced jockeying and foul driving in the fifth heat, by means of which Albermarle was cheated out of the race, in all probability. There were eleven starters: Thorndale, Albermarle, Frank, Adelle Clark, Proctor, Allen, Gray Salem, Capt. Smith, Young Wilkes, S. W. McD., and Judge.

*First Heat.*—Young Wilkes drew the pole, and Judge was outside. Pools sold: Thorndale, \$60; Albermarle, \$40; field, \$30. On the second scoring Young Wilkes was run into by Frank, and a wheel taken from his sulky. This frightened him, and he started on a run. His driver, Eugene Root, jumped upon his back, and grasped the lines, but his hands were sweaty, and he could not hold them, and he fell to the ground, rolling over like a ball. The horse went on around the course on a keen run. The Assistant-Marshal of the course, and a mounted policeman gave chase, but did not capture him until he had got half way down the homestretch, when they succeeded in grabbing his bit, and bringing him to with a round turn. He was found to have cut himself slightly, but was able to trot as soon as damages were repaired. His driver was unable to drive the race out, and his place was taken by John Splan. When the horses got away, it was to a very bad start, of which Frank, driven by Dan Mace, had the best, while the rear horse, Judge, was fully six lengths behind him. Frank readily took the pole away from Young Wilkes, and was two lengths ahead of him at the quarter, in 36s., Capt. Smith close to the black stallion. On the backstretch Frank lost none of his lead, but at the half, in 1:12, Thorndale had taken second position, and Albermarle was at his wheel. At the three-quarter pole, in 1:48, Frank still was two lengths in the lead, but Albermarle had assumed second place, having cut down the bay stallion on the upper turn, and was closing fast on Frank. A short break of the latter on the homestretch aided the spotted gelding to accomplish the task before him, and by the time Frank had settled they were neck and neck close to the wire, under which they rushed, making a dead heat in 2:22 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Judge distanced.

*Second Heat.*—The speed and steadiness shown by Albermarle in this heat made him a hot favorite, he selling for even money against the field. S. W. McD. was drawn. On the fourth attempt they got the word, Young Wilkes having a little the best of it, but with a few giant strides Doble sent Thorndale to the front, and took the pole and lead. This decided the heat, for the gallant bay stallion was never headed. At the quarter pole, in 36s., he was three lengths in advance of Albermarle; four lengths in advance at the half, in 1:12,

and five at the three-quarter pole, in  $1:46\frac{3}{4}$ , the spotted gelding second. Coming home, Albermarle went along very fast, and when Thorndale crossed the score in  $2:22\frac{1}{4}$ , was only two lengths behind. Proctor made a good fight with Albermarle for second place, which continued until the half-mile pole, but there the pace was too rapid for him, and he fell back.

*Third Heat.*—There was now a grand rush for the hedgerow, and all were eager to get on Thorndale again. Rates were \$75 for the stallion, \$30 for the field. On the second trial they got away to a good start, except for Adelle Clark, who was quite in the rear. There was no contest for this heat worthy of the name. Thorndale at once showed his heels to the party, and at the quarter, in  $35\frac{3}{4}$ s., he was two lengths ahead, but here Allen had come into second place, by grace of same running, while Frank was third. The bay stallion retained his lead handily, while on the backstretch Albermarle came up and went for second place, but as he reached Allen broke and fell back. Thorndale was three lengths ahead of Allen, at the half, in  $1:11\frac{1}{2}$ , and the field was far in the rear, but Albermarle was settled and coming like a ghost. He was third horse at the three-quarter pole, in  $1:47$ , but was too far behind Thorndale to have a show for the heat, and the latter won, under a strong pull, in  $2:23\frac{1}{2}$ , by three lengths over Albermarle. Allen finished second, but was placed last for running.

*Fourth Heat.*—Betting was at an end, but the heat furnished an excitement. The judges had not failed to notice that Albermarle seemed able at pleasure to outfoot any horse in the party. In the first heat when Frank was beating Thorndale, he went to the front and made a dead heat with Frank, but when Thorndale was in the lead he never went by. When the horses were brought up for the fourth heat, Van Ness was quietly taken out and Sam Willet substituted. The wisdom and justice of this change was soon made manifest. They got off on the third trial to a splendid start, Thorndale and Proctor in the front rank, and as the bay stallion went swinging around the turn in the lead, the big horse driven by Green had taken second place. The pace was fast, Thorndale going to the quarter pole in 35s., and there he was two lengths ahead, Proctor second, with Albermarle at his wheel. At the half, in  $1:09\frac{3}{4}$ , Thorndale was still two lengths ahead, while Albermarle had got on even terms with Proctor. Willet now urged his horse, and on the upper turn sent him along very fast, and at the three-quarter pole, in  $1:44$ , he had reached Thorndale's wheel. Inch by inch he gained on him, and as he reached his throatlatch within a few rods of the wire, the stallion broke, Doble caught him quickly, but the heat was lost, and Willet sent the spotted gelding under the wire, winner by two lengths, in  $2:20$ , amidst great excitement.

*Fifth Heat.*—Now Albermarle was again the favorite, selling for \$50 to \$38 for the field, and speculation was brisk. The horse was carefully watched between heats, so that he should not be tampered with. The heat showed that a certain party were bound to beat Albermarle, by fair means or foul. As they got the word, Thorndale, who is a very rapid scorer, shot by Albermarle, took the pole, and opened a gap, while Frank and Allen were sent around the turn on a keen run, and the former also got in front of Albermarle. Willet was evidently in sharp company, bound to beat him if possible. At the quar-

ter, in 35 $\frac{1}{4}$ s., where Thorndale led two lengths, Frank was second, running considerably more than he trotted, and Albermarle two lengths in rear of Frank, with Allen running alongside, outside of him. Thus they entered the back-stretch, and, in order to shake off his uncomfortable attendants, Willet was obliged to drop back, and pull Albermarle to the outside. This he did, and sent him along at a tremendous pace; Mace letting Frank run alongside, apparently to break him up. But he had now a clear road, and could trot faster than the others could run, and, when Thorndale passed the half, in 1:11, six lengths in advance, Albermarle was head and head with Frank, and soon went by the black gelding. The task of catching the leader seemed hopeless, but he went at it gallantly, had gained two lengths at the three-quarter pole, in 1:47, and trotted so fast down the homestretch, that he made a finish with the stallion that looked to many like a dead heat, but those directly over the wire could see Thorndale's nose in advance, and so the judges decided. Time, 2:25.

## SUMMARY.

Purse, \$2,000; 2:32 class.

E. Thorne's b. s. Thorndale, by Alexander's Abdallah..	4	1	1	2	1
F. Van Ness' sp. g. Albermarle.....	0	2	2	1	2
W. N. Barnes' blk. g. Frank, by Pathfinder 2d.....	0	5	3	3	5
A. E. Clark's b. m. Adelle Clark .....	3	3	5	7	3
C. S. Green's b. g. Proctor.....	6	6	4	4	4
E. E. Rood's b. g. Allen.....	5	4	3	5	7
D. Sheean's gr. g. Gray Salem.....	3	8	6	6	6
W. Van Valkenburgh's gr. g. Captain Smith.....	7	8	7	dr.	
W. H. Saunders, Jr.'s blk. s. Young Wilkes.....	10	9	dr.		
S. W. McDonald's b. g. S. W. McD.....	9	dr.			
W. E. Week's b. g. Judge.....	dis.				

Time, 2:22 $\frac{3}{4}$ —2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ —2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ —2:20—2:25.

Thorndale, the winner, is well known to the readers of THE SPIRIT, being the stallion of that name who has for years been at the head of the stud at Mr. Edwin Thorne's breeding farm, Dutchess county, N. Y. He is a bay, 15 hands 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, eleven years old, got by Alexander's Abdallah, dam by Mambrino Chief, second dam by Saxe Weimar. Mr. Thorne bought him in Kentucky when a three-year-old, after he had won a colt stake. Since that time he has constantly been engaged in the duties of the stud, until the present season, when the Breeders' Centennial Meeting brought him from his retirement, and on the 13th of May he was put in Budd Doble's hands to be trained. His first race was to-day, and it was a grand and remarkable one.

Let it be borne in mind that this was a performance after eight years of service in the stud—and the first race in which he appeared after so short a preparation—but the manner in which he finished each heat, I may say, excited in the minds of some of the best judges in the country the belief that Thorndale had already proved himself one of the greatest trotting stallions that has appeared on our trotting turf.



On the 24th of August, at Poughkeepsie, New York, he started again in a field of seven, and won the race in three straight heats of 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ . The uniformity with which he put in his heats as to time, in this the second race of his real career, shows the great quality of the horse he is. He was already regarded as possessing the character of a veteran of many campaigns. His next appearance was in the stallion class, at the Centennial meeting at Philadelphia, September 28, 1876, when he won, in three straight heats, in 2:30 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:31 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:32 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The following week, October 3, he won the stallion stake at Poughkeepsie, in three straight heats, which seems to have been a custom with him; best time, 2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$ . This closed his record for 1876.

In 1877 he made but one race, and that shows in still higher degree the extraordinary qualities for which he is distinguished. It was the expectation that Thorndale should start at the Breeders' meeting at Hartford, in September, 1877; but he was prevented by an accident. In passing through New York his groom, having him in charge, ran him against a truck and hurt his ankle, so that he favored it from that time until he reached Fleetwood, two days before his great race. Hence he was short of work; in spite of all which he would have won the race on the third heat easily, had not the drivers and the judges determined that he should not if they could prevent it. This race was at Fleetwood Park, New York, on the 18th and 19th of October of that year, and was for the stallion championship for 1877, and I set out the report of the race, taken in full from the *New York Spirit of the Times*, of Oct. 27.

#### THE STALLION CHAMPIONSHIP RACE.

There were nine original entries, of which five started, as follows: J. H. Welsh's black stallion Thomas Jefferson, by Toronto Chief, dam Gipsy Queen, by Wagner; A. J. McKimmin's black stallion Blackwood Jr., by Blackwood, dam Belle Sheridan, by Blood's Black Hawk; R. Penistan's bay stallion Nil Desperandum, by Belmont, dam Lady McKinney; Edwin Thorne's bay stallion Thorndale, by Alexander's Abdallah, dam by Mambrino Chief; and Patrick Day's bay stallion Young Sentinel, by Sentinel, dam by American Star.

*First Heat.*—Thorndale was favorite in the betting at 10 to 7, 3 to 1 being offered against both Thomas Jefferson and Nil Desperandum, 4 to 1 against Blackwood Jr., and 5 to 1 against Young Sentinel. The favorite got away first, and at the quarter pole, in 36s., had a lead of three lengths; Thomas Jefferson second, two lengths ahead of Blackwood Jr., and Young Sentinel, who had made a bad break, last. At the half, in 1:12, Thorndale had

increased his lead to four lengths, while Nil Desperandum had passed Blackwood Jr., and was at the wheel of Jefferson. On the hill, Nil Desperandum took second place, and closed up rapidly on Thorndale, and they had a fine race down the homestretch; but Nil broke within forty yards of the score, and was beaten out by two lengths, in 2:26 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

*Second Heat.*—Again the favorite got away first, and at the quarter, in 36s., had opened a gap of two lengths, Nil Desperandum second, but the latter made a bad break on the second quarter, and Jefferson took second place, and held it when Thorndale passed the half, in 1:12, Nil Desperandum now having fourth place; but he had rallied from his break, and was coming on finely. By the time the homestretch was reached, he had passed Blackwood Jr. and Jefferson, and made a gallant effort to capture Thorndale, but the distance was too great, and he was beaten by one length, in 2:27 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

*Third Heat.*—There seemed to be a disposition in this heat to wear out Thorndale, and they scored seventeen times before they got the word. Young Sentinel was drawn during the scoring. The start was an even one, but this time Blackwood Jr. shot ahead, and was leading at the quarter, in 36s.; but Thorndale soon took sides with him, and they had a neck-and-neck contest to the half, in 1:11, at which point Thorndale led the Tennessee horse by a neck, Nil Desperandum two lengths behind. On the third quarter both the leaders made numerous breaks, and Nil Desperandum swept on by them, and had a lead of two lengths entering the homestretch, and won the heat by that distance from Thomas Jefferson, who came up fast; time, 2:28.

*Fourth Heat.*—This time Tom Jefferson had a little the best of the start, but at the quarter pole, in 35s., Blackwood Jr. and Thorndale, the former a neck ahead, were two lengths in front of him. Just after passing the quarter, Blackwood Jr. made a bad break, and Thorndale went on so fast that at the half, in 1:10 $\frac{1}{4}$ , he had opened a gap of five lengths, Blackwood Jr. still second, Jefferson third, and Nil Desperandum fourth. His followers now began to close on Thorndale, who was leg weary, and, at the three-quarter pole, Blackwood Jr. lapped him, with Nil Desperandum a length behind. It was all up with Thorndale for the heat, and after a spirited contest down the homestretch, Blackwood Jr. won by two lengths from Nil Desperandum, who led Jefferson the same distance, Thorndale last.

*Fifth Heat.*—It was growing dark when the bell was rung for this heat, but was light enough to trot had there been no delay. Blackwood Jr. responded promptly, and Thomas Jefferson was on hand in reasonably good time, but the two bay stallions were extremely dilatory. The bell was rung long and repeatedly, but neither Thorndale nor Nil Desperandum would show up. Fully fifteen minutes of valuable daylight were wasted, and at last the judges announced that, if they did not appear at once, the two black stallions would be started without them, and this availed to bring them reluctantly out, but it had grown so dark that the heat could scarcely be trotted under the rules. The two laggards should, at least, have been fined as heavily as the rules allow. They were sent off, dark as it was, and, at the quarter, in 37s., Blackwood Jr. had a short lead from Jefferson, Thorndale in the rear. On the second quarter they all came in a bunch, and their relative positions could not

be distinguished at the half, in 1:13. From this point Thorndale ran into the lead, but, when he was pulled to a trot on the homestretch, the others caught him, and Blackwood Jr. won the heat by a length from Nil Desperandum, in 2:31½. The race was then postponed.

## FOURTH DAY.

FRIDAY, Oct. 19.—The weather was fine in the afternoon, but the attendance very light. The first business was to finish the stallion race. Only Thorndale, Nil Desperandum and Blackwood Jr. remained in.

*Sixth Heat.*—Very little betting, the book-makers being not liberal with their offers. Blackwood Jr. took the lead, and held it at the quarter pole, in 36¼s., Thorndale second, two lengths in front of Nil Desperandum. Thorndale now closed up somewhat, but could not catch the black, and Turner, therefore, brought up Nil Desperandum to accomplish the job, but, at the half, in 1:11, Blackwood Jr. still led two lengths, Thorndale at the wheel of Nil Desperandum. On the third quarter the latter closed up on the leader and lapped him at the three-quarter pole, where McKimmin claims that Turner fouled him, and took several spokes from his sulky wheel. At any rate, Nil Desperandum took the inside down the homestretch, and won by half a length, in 2:27¾.

(When the horses next came out, Nil Desperandum took the lead from the word, but, before reaching the quarter, Blackwood Jr. had taken sides with him, while Thorndale was trailing. Turner now crowded Blackwood Jr. to the outside of the track, leaving the pole path clear for Thorndale, who took advantage of it, and went to the front, leading by two lengths at the quarter. A little later, Nil Desperandum was, apparently with intention, crossed in front of Blackwood Jr., and the latter obliged to pull up. The result of these manœuvres was, that Thorndale came in first by six lengths, in 2:26½, and Desperandum second, but the judges declared it "no heat." The trick was so transparent that expulsion would scarcely have been too severe a penalty.)

*Seventh Heat.*—After the scoring began, Turner was unseated, and John Murphy put up behind Nil Desperandum. The change was not justified by the result, though it was by Turner's conduct in the former heat. Blackwood Jr. broke at the first turn, and Thorndale went to the front, and, at the quarter, in 35s., had a lead of two lengths. This gap he increased to four or five lengths, at the half, in 1:10, and won as he pleased by a dozen lengths, in 2:26½. Nil Desperandum was a bad third, and was stopped at the wire, much distressed.

## SUMMARY.

FLEETWOOD PARK, Oct. 18 and 19.—Purse \$5,000, stallion championship of 1877 and a silver cup.

E. Thorne's b. s. Thorndale, by Alexander's Abdallah	1	1	4	4	3	3	0	1
R. Penistan's b. s. Nil Desperandum, by Belmont	2	2	1	2	2	1	0	3
A. J. McKimmin's blk. s. Blackwood Jr., by Black-								
wood	4	4	3	1	1	2	0	2
J. H. Welsh's blk. s. Thomas Jefferson	3	3	3	3	4	r.o.		
P. Day's b. s. Young Sentinel	5	5	dr.					

Time, 2:26¾—2:27¾—2:28—2:29½—2:31½—2:27¾—0:00—2:26½.

A little bit of cotemporaneous history will cast some light on the above report. Mr. Thorne having taken an active part in securing the passage by the legislature of New York, of the law prohibiting pool selling, he thereby incurred the hostility of all that fraternity for himself and his horse, and there was a combined effort to defeat the horse—a combination that greatly influenced the reports of the race and the incidents attending the same.

It is stated in the foregoing report that there was a combination to score Thorndale to death, and that they scored seventeen times before getting the word for the third heat. The true number scored was *twenty-six* times before the word was given.

It is also perfectly clear that Thorndale won the false heat by six lengths, in 2:26½, notwithstanding which the judges declared it no heat, in consequence of the misconduct of the driver of Nil Desperandum; that Doble was not in the wrong, is shown by the fact that he was not even reprimanded or censured for dropping into the open gap, which was his duty and his right. As it stands, Thorndale has a record of 2:22¼, and ten heats in 2:30 or better; while it is also clear that he is entitled to the record of another in 2:26½, in the face of a combination to secure his defeat of a most formidable character.

It will be observed that the time made at the Centennial was not equal to 2:30. It is well known, perhaps, to many that owing to bad weather and other causes, fast time was not made in any of the races at the Centennial meeting. There were originally thirty-five entries for this race, but when the day came for the trial only two horses, Nil Desperandum and Robert Fulton, appeared against Thorndale, and the drivers or managers of these refused to start unless Mr. Doble would agree not to distance them—hence the slow time.

His racing career is not probably over yet. He is now understood to be ready to carry the flag of his family and contend for supremacy in the stallion trot for 1878.

When he shall have closed his career on the turf he will return to the stud, carrying laurels that will do honor alike to his owner and to the lines of blood which he represents, and when the three lines of Duroe, Bellfounder and Messenger shall produce other as good or better and greater trotting stallions, it will be a further proof of the very high estimate I have in these pages placed on that grand combination.

His colts are mostly too young to enter the lists for fast work, but from the company in which he is found at present he will be likely to

be called upon to sustain the reputation of a very fast family on more than one occasion. May it not be he that shall lower the flag of their renown or dim the lustre of a fame that already encircles the globe.

#### HIS PRODUCE.

My opportunity for inspecting his produce has been confined mainly to those owned by Mr. Thorne. Several of them, three and four years old, showed much in favor of the breeding qualities of their sire; and his lot of weanlings, about fifteen in number, seen in January, 1876, were the best lot for the same number that I have ever seen at the same season anywhere. They were alike a credit to the breeder, their keeper, and their parentage.

The following statements furnished by a correspondent may be received regarding the colts of Thorndale:

Wild Oats is the only one of his foals that I have any knowledge of having been trained by a professional trainer. He has a record of 2:41. Budd Doble had him a short time during the autumn of 1876, and I have understood he gave him a trial in 2:32.

Marksman, 6 years old, out of Lady Patriot, won the Country Gentleman's Breeders stake for 3-year-olds at Albany, N. Y., September 7th, 1875. Lady Patriot was dam of Volunteer.

On September 24th, he trotted in the 4-year-old-and-under class at Poughkeepsie and won second money, finishing well up in three heats, the last being trotted in 2:39. Four started, two were distanced. He has been kept in the stud since. He is being driven daily, although in the stud in Thorndale's place. He shows great bursts of speed at times, and will be a creditable representative of his distinguished parentage. It is proposed to develop and trot him next season. His full brother Patriot is improving rapidly in his speed, and will be no disgrace to his family.

Thorndale Jr. has pulled a wagon on a half mile track in 2:40, and barring accidents will be able to show 2:30 or better to harness before the close of the season. But of *all* the get of Thorndale, *Daisydale* is second to none. She has grown into a magnificently developed animal, 16½ hands high, with a head and neck as fine as a race-horse, shoulders of great depth, lung capacity unequalled, back short and well muscled, immense quarters and stifles, good strong feet set on legs as flat and clean as a thoroughbred's. She has a long, clean, sweeping gait, gathers quick, is steady as clock work, likes company, requires no boots or weights, and is as level headed as they make

them. She has been timed a *full* mile in fast time, and she is improving. Pioneer, four years old, out of the dam of Enigma, is gifted with a great deal of speed, and will make his mark. So also will Buccaneer, out of Enigma (4 years), and also will Briareus, a double inbred Hambletonian and Mambrino. Havoc, Leiladale, Dorabella, Claydale, and a host of others, give every indication of being trotters. Glendora, Everdale and Botheration are all speedy and can show a forty gait, and with handling will trot low in the thirties this season.

Hero, of Thorndale, whose dam was Heroine (full sister to Volunteer and Sentinel), second dam Lady Patriot, is in Kentucky, doing service as a stallion. He was owned by the late F. P. Kinkead.

Thorndale Jr. and Daisydale are brother and sister. Dam Daisy, by Burr's Washington, son of Burr's Napoleon, by Young Mambrino; second dam by Abdallah; third dam by Engineer.

The above colts of Thorndale will be watched with interest by all lovers of good horses.

## ALMONT.

We now reach for consideration one of the most remarkable trotting sires this country has yet produced—a princely son of a royal sire, and worthy of a place in a household of kings and queens. Almont was bred at “Woodburn Farm,” the home of Alexander's Abdallah, either by Mr. Alexander or Mr. D. Swigert—at that time the superintendent—and was foaled in 1864, and sold by Mr. Swigert, when four years old, to Col. Richard West, of Scott county, Kentucky. His dam was by Mambrino Chief; 2d dam by Pilot Jr.; and 3d dam, a very highly bred mare owned by Wm. H. Pope, of Louisville, Kentucky. For the latter mare no pedigree was given, but she was one of those very highly bred animals whose blood being unknown was often claimed for thoroughbred—and while, perhaps, not entitled to that rank, was nevertheless one of the best possible selections on which to start a structure composed of the best of trotting bloods, and to culminate in a trotting sire of rare distinction and enduring fame. The next link in the chain is that of Pilot Jr., and he by the Canadian pacer Pilot, from a mare having much the same claims to high blood as the one above referred to. This Pilot Jr. cross, which will receive further attention during the progress of these chapters, was one that had the happy and very fertile faculty of fusing and harmonizing well and readily with any trotting or even racing blood, and giving the product a ready tendency to the trotting gait, and at the same time

interposing no real impediments in the way of cross-bred or conflicting anatomy. It lacked fixedness and obstinacy, and served as a sort of amalgam to render opposite and unyielding fields pliant and fruitful, in union with more positive and controlling elements. It was an element that seemed to have affinities for every other, and all tending in a direction to promote ready trotting action, no matter what the combination. It possessed qualities that are difficult to comprehend. While the trotting quality came from an inferior and coarsely bred animal, it had, nevertheless, the faculty of engrafting a trotting action, to a very great degree, on the produce of other bloods far higher in quality. It even succeeded with thoroughbred crosses when the Hambletonian blood failed. Thus, for instance, the grandam of Crittenden raised two daughters, one by Alexander's Abdallah, that has never been a success, and another by Pilot Jr., that breeds a colt of trotting action approaching the highest type—the latter is the dam of Crittenden. This is the only aspect or manifestation of the Pilot blood that is clearly visible in Almont, as we shall see further along. The next link in his pedigree brings us to his own dam by Mambrino Chief. Here we have a cross of royal trotting blood in the foreground, and one that was, like the Pilot blood, also noted for its readiness to amalgamate advantageously with any and all other elements, whether of the trotter or the thoroughbred. It was a blood that reached back in straight and short lines to old Messenger, by that process of reuniting, after a certain interval, two or more currents of the same blood, which, in breeding, is often found to secure an intensified manifestation of the leading or controlling qualities of the particular blood. This is nowhere better illustrated than in the case of the various families of trotters bred or descended from the Messenger family. Although it is true that now and then an able and intelligent critic of rare accomplishments, such as the fluent and versatile editor of the *Sportsman*, is found ready to detract from the great merits of the blood of Messenger as a trotting constituent, the concurrent testimony of so many others, and such vast numbers of great performances on the trotting turf, do attest the fact that the great trotting blood of the world is that which has come down to us from the great horse, imported Messenger. Furthermore, we find that the trotting tendencies of this blood are best seen when separate currents, after certain intervals, from a common origin, are again reunited. The list of American trotters abounds with illustrations of this proposition. Mambrino Chief was himself one—greater as a trotter and a sire than any



RAHO-MENALTY-CO.

ALMONT.





of his ancestors of either branch; Hambletonian was another, and the greatness of Alexander's Abdallah renders very probable all the alleged Mambrino crosses in the unauthenticated pedigree of Katy Darling. Besides these, Blackwood, Gov. Sprague—two of the fastest stallions—and Mambrino Kate—the fastest of the get of Mambrino Patchen—afford ready illustrations. And to those who dispute the inherited trotting tendencies of the Messenger blood, I may here put the question: In what other family do you find the above marked peculiarity? The blood of Diomed prevails in this country more extensively, perhaps, than that of Messenger. It is very often reunited after intervals of separation, but it nowhere displays such an accumulative inclination toward the trotting gait. Instances of the same peculiarity are found in the Bellfounder blood; and this is another proof that it is kindred to that of Messenger. The Mambrino Chief mare also afforded a nearly related channel in which the blood of Hambletonian found a congeniality that would amount to more than a mere affinity. It was a positive and very near consanguinity. While in Almont the Mambrino Chief element is less conspicuous than that of Hambletonian, it has served a very important end in giving solidity and great positiveness and strength to the make-up of the entire animal, and especially in those parts where the Messenger blood tends to strong and positive development.

Almont is a deep or solid bay horse, standing 15 hands  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches on his withers, and one inch higher on the rump, and weighs, in ordinary condition, 1,175 lbs. His points are black, and the color extends to and includes the knees and hocks; he has the Mambrino Chief badge of a grey right hind leg from the foot to the hock, although not yet very plain, but increasing with age. His mane is medium, and his tail rather light. In his measurement and in his proportions he is almost exactly like Thorndale—his head is in length, 26; his neck the same, 35; his hindquarter is  $38\frac{1}{2}$  from hip to hock and  $24\frac{1}{2}$  in length of thigh—slightly longer; and in his foreleg his relative proportion is just enough different to make their gaits and that of all the Almonts clearly different—11 and 21; and let it be borne in mind that in this particular the variation of one-half inch makes a vast difference in the gait of a horse. This one-half inch would make Smuggler a steady trotter, and the truest and fastest stallion in the world; but of him when we get there. It will be noticed that Almont is almost precisely the same in his foreleg measurement as Volunteer, and the old-time objection that I heard against the Almonts before I ever saw one of

them was, that they pointed or dug too much with their forefeet. It is true that, like the Volunteers, they trot best with a light weight; but, as I showed in the case of that family, this clamor about not bending the knees is false in theory and needless in practice. Both families bend their knees enough to get to the end of the race in fast time. But the difference in the matter of elevation of the forefeet, between Thorndale and the Almonts, is very perceptible; while Almont might, without detriment, raise them a little more, Thorndale shows his well up and out in front in vigorous style. In the neck Almont appears slightly heavier than the Hambletonian model—his shoulder is heavy and very powerful, and extends well forward; his middle-piece is excellent, and, with his back and loin short and powerful, gives him the appearance of great compactness and power; but, like all of the best Hambletonians, the excellence of the animal appears to the greatest advantage in the hindquarter. In the triangular lines H, F, G, he is respectively 17, 20, and 27; and is, from hip to hip over the loin, 26 inches—the same as Thorndale. His quarters are exceedingly muscular, and he carries it both on the outside and on the inside—and in this connection there is a family peculiarity pertaining to the Hambletonians worthy of notice. Many of our powerful trotters, especially those coming from Messenger, Hambletonian or Mambrino Chief blood, on Diomed or Archy crosses, show a great and very powerful muscular development of the outer quarters, and low down on the thigh or gaskin. Many of them widen out at a range with the stifle; but the Hambletonian family are marked from all others in the excessive development of the inside of the quarters and the back part of the great muscle of the quarters—I describe Hambletonian in that part as “simply immense.”

The Abdallah family were not deficient on the inside of the quarter, while they were so flat and straight on the outside as to be always called “cat-hammed.” Messenger Duroc has much of this appearance, but shows his true Hambletonian massiveness on the inner side of the quarter. When we come to study closely the muscular organization of the horse, and the office performed by each muscle, we shall find that this vast accumulation—penetrated by an innumerable system of ligaments, all centering in the great back sinew that extends to the hock and the main tendons that lift and propel the hind leg—is by no means superfluous. Its importance is suggested by the speed and extraordinary power of the family which possesses the conformation in such high degree. Whether this peculiarity comes from the Bell-

founder element, or pertains also to the Messenger family, is not clear to my mind, but that it is a characteristic of the Hambletonian family appears to my entire satisfaction; and I have thought that this peculiar attainment of this family had some sort of connection with that singular and difficult-to-comprehend location of muscle and power in this family, which appears most clearly when the Bellfounder blood is doubled, as in the produce of Hambletonian sires on mares by Sayer's Harry Clay—as noticed in my last chapter.

This family, as I there showed, were of the long measurement from hip to hock, and were seeming or apparent dwellers—and Harry Clay was himself a noted quitter—while the produce of those mares are so far reinforced by the additional and direct Bellfounder element, through the Hambletonians, that fast time is not more their characteristic than endurance in the race. Gazelle, Bodine, St. Julien and Prospero are all of this class, and have been found fast, and, so far as tried thus far, not wanting in stamina for the number of heats necessary to win a race. I know of no family that seems to have more of the strength of quarter in the inside and back part, which I have here referred to, than appears in Almont and in his produce with great uniformity. The three great families from which he is immediately descended are so completely blended, and unite in such perfect harmony, that it is difficult to indicate readily the different phases and manifestations of each. His appearance is strikingly Hambletonian, and with all that, he is a plain, good-looking horse—neither coarse in any part, nor strikingly fine in any particular. He does not seem like a large horse, and, at a little distance, has the appearance of a rather small one, but when you get close to him you discover that he is exceedingly stout and compact. His limbs, while flat and blood-like, are large and powerful; his knee is  $13\frac{5}{8}$  inches around; his hock  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches; and he is  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches around the large tendon, at the smallest place above the hock. He stands so low that he does not seem large, but his weight of 1,175 pounds tells how compactly and powerfully he is built. While speaking of his hocks and limbs I can not omit notice of the pre-eminent quality of both. I think we rarely pay sufficient attention to this matter of texture and quality of leg. I have recently found fault with one stallion—sparingly, as I thought—and it seems others, also—as I received a letter from a gentleman, well known all over the Union as a breeder, who reminded me that I omitted to notice his “gummy” legs. Almont's are not of that kind, and the most severe work brings up no traces of inflammation or swelling. They

have the quality of absorbing all their synovial secretions, and their cellular tissue is of the genuine Abdallah sort—they endure friction. This quality enables him to impart to his offspring a degree of health and soundness in limbs and hocks, that goes far to enhance the great value of the family. We have learned too many lessons, in respect to this question of unsoundness, in this country, to pass lightly over these points, even though some of the penholders, who write to please owners rather than truthfully instruct the people, may seem querulous about the matter. In the State of Kentucky the people have been educated on this point, and have paid for their schooling. They will tell you, however, that the Almonts are sound in foot, hock and limb. What I have said about the soundness of feet, hocks and limbs of Almont, applies equally to Thorndale.

In temper Almont is very gentle, and perfectly kind when quiet; but, when in motion, he seems only impatient of the restraint of the rein. He wants to go with great vehemence, and seems to delight most in the fastest gait he can display.

The gait of Almont, and all his family, amounts to a type by which they are as much distinguished as any other feature. He throws his feet well out in front, but does not lift them high, and does not display any excess of knee action; but their reach is so even and steady, and so much lacking in the high-lifting displays that are sometimes seen, as to call for the observation from many that he trots unequally before and behind; for, in the matter of wide-spreading stifle, powerfully-acting hocks and grand stride, coupled with a propelling power that is almost terrific, he is a sight worth beholding when he is on the track going at a rate of near 2:20. His stroke is powerful and far-sending, and displays uncommon muscular vigor. His quarters and thigh are so muscular, and the latter so long for so short a limbed horse, that his action behind is at once vigorous and striking for the immense leverage he displays, and the short and powerful conformation that enables him to use it at such great advantage. Instead of the long limb and thigh that prevails in the early Clay families, he has a long thigh—24½ inches—and a reach from hip to hock only 38½ inches, which is half an inch shorter than the Abdallah average; and the result is, that his hind leg moves with less of the elastic, springy and unbending motion, but with a display of vigor in the stifle and thigh that shows in the excess his immense and powerful muscular organization.

The trotting gait of Almont is rather wide open behind. Standing in

front or behind him when in motion, you clearly see the lines occupied by the front feet between, and by the hind feet on the outside, with great evenness and regularity. The point at which they widen or spread seems to be at the stifle, and he keeps his hind legs in perpendicular line, rather than in the sprawling manner exhibited by some that trot with no more width behind. The peculiar gait of the front legs I have described is a Hambletonian type, when the same proportions occur, as in the Volunteers; but the vigorous display of power and action behind, is derived evidently from his cross-breeding into the Pilot and Mambrino Chief elements—a kind of breeding that can not always be accomplished with such good results. His hindquarter leverage is faulty in the same respect as Thorndale's, and in greater degree, as he has a longer thigh. Were his measurement from hip to hock  $39\frac{1}{2}$  or 40 inches, he would show more elasticity of gait—more of the real Abdallah propelling power—and not lift his hocks so high. He would not be so showy a field trotter, but, to my mind, would display a gait more likely to be relied upon for long-continued wear and tear. As a sire, however, it must be conceded that his surplus of trotting action is less objectionable than as a trotter for turf purposes—he has the more of this quality to impart to the offspring of mares that are lacking in this respect.

The Almonts are showy trotters, and seem always ready for a display. They are so constructed that they can trot more easily than do anything else; hence they are natural trotters; and this is the remarkable characteristic of the family—that the produce of Almont seem to trot with a total disregard to the qualities or characteristics of the mares from which they are bred. The Hambletonian horse is not, as a general rule, very successful in engrafting a ready and free trotting gait on the produce of thoroughbred or racing mares, but Almont does it to a degree hardly surpassed, and perhaps not equaled, by any Pilot or Mambrino Chief stallion we have ever produced.

An opinion was at one time expressed by myself, and, I believe, entertained by his owner, that Almont did not so readily succeed with his own kith and kin of the Hambletonian blood. It is now clear that this was an error, and a recent thorough examination satisfies me that there is no foundation for it. I shall look to mares by the highly bred sons of Hambletonian as those with which Almont will achieve his greatest fame. His success with thoroughbreds and all other classes of mares can not well be accounted for without our attention being directed to the three great blood elements which are so successfully blended in his own composition.

Although Almont is a young horse, and only entered the stud nine years ago, he probably has a greater number of colts that are pronounced trotters than any other stallion this country has ever produced, with a stud service of twice that period. We often hear it claimed of this or that stallion, that his colts are all trotters—it is a distinction that can hardly be denied to Almont, if there ever was any such stallion. Another and a marked peculiarity is that, in form and appearance, all his produce have the form and physical conformation of young Hambletonians. I recently observed in one lot a filly by Almont, from a mare by Hambletonian, another from a thoroughbred mare by imp. Knight of St. George, and another by Jay Gould, from a mare by Hambletonian, and the uniformity of the type which prevailed between these and all the Almonts and other Hambletonians of the same age—two-year-olds—seen at and about the same time, was truly remarkable. Almont is a Hambletonian, and the Almonts are all Hambletonians, with as clearly stamped uniformity as any family in America.

In the matter of imparting a trotting gait to the produce of thoroughbred and other highly bred mares, I have compared him to Pilot Jr. and Mambrino Chief; but in the matter of positiveness in every trait, and his ability to impress his own image and characteristics on his offspring—his prepotency as a sire—I know of none that can approach him—he is not only ALMONT but the ALTA-MONT.

As a trotter, Almont made his mark before he entered the stud, in one race—the only one in which he ever appeared, and in which he distanced his field of competitors in 2:39½, at the age of four years. He was trotted over Mr. Alexander's track in 2:32, which, on other tracks, it is said, would be equal to 2:27. He was soon after purchased by Col. West, for \$8,000, and has since been in the stud constantly. Mr. Lowell drove him a half mile in 1:12 while in stud service, and with no special preparation for speed. He was bought by his present owner, Gen. W. T. Withers, of Lexington, Ky., in the winter of 1874, for \$15,000, and is now doing a large stud service. He is a plain but good-looking horse, more resembling Florida than any other, but is slightly larger and heavier. While kept exclusively for stud service, he is driven very regularly, and can show a gait equal to about 2:20, at almost any day of the year. He has every appearance of a well-conditioned and very hardy horse.

My readers will not obtain a complete idea of the qualities and character of Almont, notwithstanding his rare breeding, and the extra-

ordinary qualities of the other members of the same family, without a glance at the results of his brief service in the stud. He made his first season in 1869, at five years old, and of that year's produce, twelve have been handled, and all trotted, at three years old, in 2:50 and better. Of these, one that I have admired is the splendid young stallion, Almont Chief, owned by Geo. M. Jewett, Esq., of Zanesville, Ohio. His dam was Monogram by Mambrino Chief, one of the best mares left by that great stallion, and one of the best I ever saw anywhere. For high breeding and rare trotting qualities, I have looked upon this young stallion as one of the finest I ever saw, and regard him as a young sire of very great promise.

Of this same list was Allie West—truly one of the renowned trotters of our day—a large and beautiful horse, highly formed in every respect. He trotted, as a four-year-old, in 1874, at Lexington, in 2:29½, distancing the whole field the first heat. In the fall of 1875, after making a full season in the stud, he made a record of 2:25, and showed that he could have done still better, as he was pulled up to a jog before coming to the wire. He went to the half mile in 1:10. Soon after he showed, in private, a half mile in 1:08, and was purchased by J. B. Wilgus, for \$15,000. He made the season of 1876, having excited the most sanguine expectations of a brilliant career, both as a trotter and as a trotting sire. I saw him about the 1st of July, and fully acceded to the high estimate that prevailed concerning him. From some cause, not yet explained, he died very suddenly before the month had closed—certainly a great loss, and one which will be regretted by all breeders of trotting stock.

Of the same list, Albrino, in 1873, won the Woodford three-year-old stakes, at Lexington, and has since shown a mile in 2:30—private. In 1873, Alethea won the Woodford two-year-old stakes, and, in 1874, she won the \$500 gold stakes, at Lexington, and, in 1875, made a record of 2:31, after trotting a five-heat race the day previous. She is from a strictly thoroughbred mare by Melbourne, the sire of Jim Irving. Katie Jackson, four years old, third heat 2:25¾, which was best four-year-old record to that date. Alice West, four years old, third heat 2:29¾.

Consul, by Almont, in October, 1874, won the regular two-year-old stakes, at Lexington, and, in November, same year, showed 2:39½, in private, over Mr. Alexander's track, and a quarter in 36 seconds. In the spring of 1875 he won the regular three-year-old stakes at



Harrodsburg, in 2:39. Afterward, when very lame, he started and won two heats, and made one dead heat, at Georgetown.

Piedmont, in fall of 1875, at Hartford, won the Charter Oak stakes for four-year-olds—the first race he ever started in—time, 2:32 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:34 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 2:30 $\frac{1}{4}$ . It was a race that attracted considerable notice.

Alvermont, by Almont, in September, 1875, won the \$500 free-for-all purse, offered by the Fair Association, at Lexington, against a good field, Alamo, by Almont, taking second money.

This same Alamo, in October, 1875, at St. Louis, won the premium offered for the fastest horse, mare or gelding of any age, over a field of fourteen starters, some of them with fast records. He also took premium at St. Louis for best four-year-old roadster stallion. In 1877, after a full season, he made a record of 2:41.

Latoka, a three-year-old filly, won a match race at Georgetown, Ky., distancing Summer Coon in first heat.

Trouble, by Almont, won, at Terre Haute, Ind., in 1875, and trotted several races in the Northwest, winning first and second money, and making a record of 2:37 $\frac{1}{4}$ , at Chicago, in July—four years old.

Easter Maid won, as a three-year-old, first heat in gold stakes, at Lexington, Alethea winning the race. June 16, 1876, at Grand Rapids, Mich., Easter Maid won the 2:45 race, taking the second, third and fourth heats. She has a record of three heats each in 2:35.

Almont Jr. won at New Orleans, March 4, 1876, in three heats, in 2:37 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:41 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and 2:39 $\frac{1}{2}$ . This colt was sold as an unsound colt at his breeder's sale.

Payne's Almont Jr., four years old, 2:33 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Aldine was winner of Breeders' Centennial stake for three-year-olds, in 2:37 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and as a four-year-old made a record of 2:33 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Altamont, 2:39.

It should be said, in addition to the above, that Easter Maid trotted in 1877, on a half mile track, in 2:27, and won in a public race, but the time was not taken, as is alleged, because it was at a fair.

This makes a list of actual winners that will far surpass that of any other stallion in this country for the same period in the stud; and he has others not named above. He has, to this date, about twenty winners in public races.

It will be observed, that these colts trotted at two years old and upward, and won in hotly contested races, often in fourth and fifth heats. I call especial attention to this latter fact, inasmuch as it has been urged against some of these colts that they lacked staying qual-

ities. It was even urged against that great young horse Allie West, that, after doing greater than his age had ever done before, he did not do even greater things. It is apparent that all these colts have been trotted too young, according to the custom that has heretofore prevailed in other parts of this country; but, in Kentucky, they have in late years taken to trotting their horses before they are out of their babyhood—a most pernicious practice, the evil of which has been very forcibly and justly pointed out and exposed by an able and popular writer. They trot them in races of three to five heats, at an age when they should not expect any but the most extraordinary and precocious to appear, and then they accuse them of a lack of stamina, when they have shown a rate of speed, and a degree of endurance, that have been regarded as highly creditable in thoroughly seasoned and well-trained horses—the veterans of the turf.

I may here observe that the dams of Almont Chief, Allie West, Albrino, Piedmont, and several others of the most promising of the sons of Almont, were mares by Mambrino Chief—from which an impression has gained some currency, that Almont's greatest success will be with such mares. I do not believe it is necessarily true, although I am ready to accord high merit to such mares as the dams of trotters or trotting sires. But it must be borne in mind that they represent an early family, and it is by no means certain that the produce of other mares may not also excel.

In conclusion, I may call attention to what seems to demand notice; that while it is true that Almont is made up of three successive crosses—almost outcrosses—and hence might be regarded as entirely heterogeneous in his composition, he is, in his individual qualities, entirely homogeneous, and displays remarkable impressiveness as a sire.

The views heretofore advanced with reference to the Duroc-Messenger blood furnish the explanation of the notable fact recognized in the success of Almont. In addition to the Duroc, the Messenger and the Bellfounder, he unites the Pilot blood, which, as already suggested, and as we shall see hereafter, is one that fuses readily with other bloods, and, above all, with the Duroc-Messenger. This is the secret of the great success of this horse as a sire. He is an impressive sire with all classes of mares, and in the case of Allie West, from a mare very strong in the Messenger blood, he has produced a horse that should give reputation to any sire. I have closely studied the composition of Allie West, and while he closely resembles an-

other great stallion now in Kentucky, even more closely than he does his own sire, I can not forbear to express the opinion that has grown on me since I saw him, that he was in reality the best trotting stallion ever foaled in the State of Kentucky—an opinion that does not detract from the value of his own sire, or the champion stallion of 1877.

#### SONS OF ALMONT.

The space allotted to this list will not suffice to enumerate all the sons of Almont now occupying places of distinction.

PIEDMONT, dam Mag Ferguson, by Mambrino Chief; 2d dam by Grey Eagle; trotted in 2:30 $\frac{1}{4}$  at four years old; owned by Palmer & Morgan, of Connecticut.

ALMONT EAGLE, full brother to Piedmont; owned by C. W. Gage, Nashua, New Hampshire.

TROUBLE, dam by Brown Chief, son of Mambrino Chief; 2d dam by imported Hooton; 3d dam by Bertrand (an extra good pedigree;) has two winners to his credit; has shown a 2:20 gait, and trotted a full mile in 2:25.

CONSTELLATION, foaled 1874; owned by Gen. W. S. Tilton, Togus, Maine; dam Lady Hunt, by Starlight, son of Blood's Blackhawk; 2d dam by Mambrino Chief.

ALMONT ECLIPSE, foaled 1873; owned by John B. Clarke, Manchester, New Hampshire; dam by Morgan Rattler, son of Green Mountain Morgan; 2d dam by a son of Pilot Jr.; 3d dam by Downing's Bay Messenger; 4th by Lance.

ALMONT RATTLER, 1871; dam by Rattler, son of Stockbridge Chief; 2d dam by Brignoli;—Pilot Jr.;—Grey Eagle; owned by Judge W. I. Hayes, Clinton, Iowa; is one of the best sons of Almont.

ALROY, owned by C. M. Smith, Earlville; dam by Conscript; 2d dam by Mambrino Chief; was awarded first premium at Illinois State Fair, 1876, by a committee of which I had the honor to be chairman.

ALAMO, dam by Alexander's Abdallah, won many races, and was sold for \$5,000 to C. B. Jones, of Des Moines, Iowa.

PAYNE'S ALMONT, and a full brother to same; dam by Blood's Blackhawk; both highly promising stallions and very fast.

REMINGTON, chestnut stallion; dam Lady Templar, by Mambrino Templar, etc., etc.; was bred by myself, and is now owned by D. W. Arnold, of Waukegan, Ill.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE CLAY HAMBLETONIANS.

THE wide dissemination of the blood of the family known as the Bashaws and Clays, which form the subject of my Chapter XIX, led to the employment of numerous mares of that family for breeding purposes. Hambletonian received many such, and several of his distinguished sons came from such mares respectively. In this chapter I present for consideration the representatives of that class; and they furnish us with some valuable lessons, and much that illustrates and confirms what we have already gone over in previous chapters.

In Chapter XIX it will be seen that the first of the so-called Clay family was produced by a Canadian trotting mare called Surry. We know but little of her, except that she was a mare of superior trotting action, and was said to possess all the characteristics of the Canadians. Her son Henry Clay was noted, among other points, for long rear leverage, that is, for long and heavy quarters. This is often referred to by those who knew him, and will be more particularly referred to in the chapter devoted to that family. It has been a noticeable feature of the several branches of the Clay family that they are still noted for heavy and powerful quarters; but the length of the line from hip to hock has gradually grown shorter with each remove from the first Clay, except as this trait has found reinforcement by Bellfounder or other crosses, until in the Clays of the present day but a slight variation, if any, can be found from the measure in length of the Messenger family. I only call attention to this, and will explain it fully when I come to treat of that family, as showing the tendencies of the uppermost or superior blood in the composition to revert to the original standard of that blood.

Notwithstanding the fact of the partial or complete return of the family to the short leverage, their manner of going, or action of the rear propellers, still shows the effect of the increase of power and

stroke which came into the family from the Canadian mare Surry. The stroke of the Clays, Columbuses, St. Lawrences and Canadians generally bears a similarity in this regard. They trail their feet out behind further, and do not lift the hocks as high as in some other families.

When crossed with the blood of Bellfounder in Sayer's Harry Clay, or coming through Hambletonian, the leverage which distinguished the Bellfounder and the original Clay seemed to encounter a mutual augmentation, and in each case respectively the increase of leverage is visible. Even when the cross was not from one of the strong or positive families the effect on the gait or action of the rear propellers is noticeable and decisive in large degree, as an indication of the blood forces which have combined to produce the result.

I have several times before shown that the one great need of the Messenger family was increase of leverage; that Bellfounder gave this, and the result was an increase of speed and trotting quality. The success of the Clay cross in the Hambletonians may, in like manner, be credited to the same cause in as great degree as anything else. It is noticeable that the success of the cross in the Bashaw and Clay blood has been in proportion to the degree of increase in leverage. Thus the Hambletonians from Bashaw mares—not Clays—bear a small ratio of speed to those whose dams were Clays; and, further, among the Clays, the most distinguished are those reinforced by the additional Bellfounder leverage—thus proving that the increase in trotting quality is in proportion to the increase in leverage.

Moreover, this Clay family are credited with inheriting from this same maternal ancestor a certain peculiarity of temperament, which by some has been supposed to have come from his apparent low-breeding, and to indicate a lack of stamina. They have often been styled quitters. While I do not concede that the trait is a lack of staying quality, or any other than a peculiarity of temperament—a nervous or mental trait, it must be admitted that it comes out now and then in such unmistakable form as to amount to a family trait or characteristic, and this, when it does appear, may also be considered as a proof of kinship; for it has appeared so often in the various branches of the Clay family, and with such decided manifestations, as to show that it is a deeply seated and inheritable mental or nerve characteristic.

Moreover, this Clay family have been noted for one other family trait or characteristic in large degree, and with great prevalence, and that is, in the matter of color and superficial markings.

As Bellfounder was distinguished by his adherence to the bay and brown, so the Clays and their crosses show a strong partiality for the black, and the brown as bordering on the black, and for more or less white in the faces and on the legs. These latter colorings will be shown in their appropriate chapter, to have followed the family from their earliest progenitors; and it may also be observed that, as between the two families of the Bellfounders and the Clays when crossed, in this matter of the relative strength of the element of color the supremacy must be said generally to rest with the Clays. There are more black and dark brown Hambletonians of that cross than there are bays in the Clay family; and while Hambletonian himself was sometimes successful in controlling the color of his sons from Clay mares, those sons very often produce black colts and these with white faces and legs—showing the ultimate supremacy of the Clay blood in the matter of color.

GEORGE WILKES.

This is one of the most distinguished sons of Hambletonian. He is a brown horse, and was foaled in 1856. He was bred by Col. Felter, of Greenwood Lake, Orange county, N. Y., and was first called Robert Fillingham. Until he had attained the age of nearly twenty-two years, his owners and others interested in the matter, appear to have taken about the same degree of interest in the blood and pedigree of his dam as was shown by the owners and friends of Abdallah during his lifetime. She was a mare called Dolly Spanker, and noted for her own good qualities—a road mare of great superiority. How valuable is the lesson taught by the fact that the dam of almost every great stallion and performer was a superior road mare! She was a fine roadster, and when five years old could speed in about 3:30. She appears to have been bred by Mr. Clark Philips, in the vicinity of Bristol, not far from Geneva, N. Y. She was by Henry Clay, son of Andrew Jackson, and the progenitor of the family of horses known as the Clays. Her dam was a mare called Old Telegraph, by a horse called the Baker Highlander, but it does not clearly appear what his blood was. The accounts agree that the dam and grandam of Dolly Spanker were both good mares, and of great capacity as roadsters. This mare died in foaling, and her colt, the subject of this sketch, was brought up by hand on a diet of cow's milk and Jamaica rum sweetened with loaf sugar, according to the statement given to the public. This may in part account for the lack of size in Wilkes; he is only fifteen hands in height, but very fine and blood-like in every

part. He has great strength, and the finest muscle over his back and loin I have seen anywhere. In form he is as faultless as perfection itself. His front leg measure is 11 and 20, and he exhibits plenty of what they call knee action. His colts trot with light shoes, requiring no extra weight. He has a thigh only 22 inches in length, but he has a very muscular and finely formed quarter and gaskin. He is as clean cut and blood-like as any stallion in the land.

The evidences relating to the pedigree of the dam of George Wilkes have only been brought out recently through the efforts of the editor of the *Trotting Register*, and have been the occasion of some controversy, although I may say that the proofs are of such a character as to leave little room for controversy, and the pedigree given is one of such conceded merit as to give no occasion for exception on that score. Since the discovery of the facts relating to the main question many others have come to light which furnish strong corroboration of the reputed blood of the dam of this noted stallion.

I may here mention one or two matters bearing on this question. When the facts came out recently tending to show that the mare was a daughter of Henry Clay, I wrote to a gentleman at Lexington to give me full particulars relating to the color and markings of the colts of Wilkes. I had seen them on one or two occasions in small numbers, but preferred a statement from one who had known many of them since his going to Kentucky. His reply was that many of his colts are black, and many have white in their faces and white feet and legs when the mares had no such marks, and were of other colors—even bays and chestnuts. Of the correctness of this matter there can be no question. He has two performers in the 2:30 list, both entered as blacks. His fast three-year-old performer, Girlic, that won the stake for three-year-olds, was a beautiful black filly. He not only shows a leaning toward the Clay color, but it would seem that superiority in his produce ran in the same direction. I may say that horses of the Hambletonian families do not breed after such colors unless there is some good reason for it near at hand.

The editor of Hiram Woodruff's *Trotting Horse of America*, in his appendix, describing Wilkes, speaks of him thus:

He was dark brown in color, fifteen hands high, of good length and substance, and very high behind. *His hind leg when straightened out in action as he went at his best pace, reminded me of that of a duck in swimming.*

This latter sort of action in a Hambletonian is very suggestive of a Clay cross. The same writer, in speaking of Wilkes' match against

Gen. Butler, and a two-mile trial, which was a little too hard for the former, says that—

For a long time he was George Wilkes no more. *He gradually recovered most of his speed and bottom, but I think he was ever after a little inclined to sulk*; and he never achieved that place upon the topmost pinnacle of fame for which I think he once had capacity.

Apropos of this incident I may here advert to a remark made to me by an old gentleman two years ago, and before the fact of the Clay cross in this stallion was suggested. He was giving me his personal recollections of the noted stallions of the past and present, having known most of them for nearly fifty years intimately. He characterized Wilkes as a *quitter*, no doubt, in his own way, referring to this sulking trait, which comes out in the Clay family. I mention this not for the purpose of casting any unfavorable reflection on the horse, but as an incident corroborative of the evidences now presented that his dam was a daughter of Henry Clay.

While in the sense referred to by the writer above, Wilkes and all the Clay family were what we call *quitters*, I reject *in toto* the idea that it was from any lack of bottom or stamina. It is supposed to have come in with the Surry mare, the dam of Henry Clay, but it was a mental or nerve trait, not an evidence of physical weakness. I have known a son of George M. Patchen that could trot a mile singly in 2:35, but let an opponent press him hard, collar him, or get the least advantage over him, and he could not be made to go his mile in 3:35. He was a regular sulker; the sting of defeat, or even its danger, had such an effect on his temper that he *would not trot even if he could*. Boston, the great race-horse, did this same thing; so did his grandson, Harry Bassett. I have seen Exchange, a horse owned by John Harper, do the same way, and he would stop on the track with a rider on his back and refuse to go a single step—rather an uncertain sort of a race-horse, yet he was a fortunate horse in most of his races. But certain it is, that George Wilkes possessed this very peculiar trait for which the Clay family have been noted; and while it is a deeply seated mental trait of very lasting character, and one that does not recommend any family in itself, the Clay family in general and Wilkes in particular, have displayed a degree of excellence that takes most of the edge from this objection, however serious it may be.

I will say that, to my mind, the evidences are quite satisfactory, that the dam of George Wilkes was a daughter of Henry Clay. The superior qualities of that mare and of her own dam have all been



brought down and reproduced in the son. When compared with Hambletonian the most casual observer must be able to see that his dam had a great share in moulding his form and general conformation. He has the finest muscular organization to be found among the sons of Hambletonian, and over the back, loin, hips and quarters he is truly magnificent.

His temper is not quite so kind as that of his sire, and he does not tolerate any familiarity from strangers. He has the appearance of a small horse of intense compactness, and of the highest degree of quality. All recognize his superiority at first sight.

As a trotter, George Wilkes was one of the earliest contributors to the fame of the Hambletonian family. As early as 1862, he appeared against such a veteran as Gen. Butler, in a race which the latter won in 2:21½. He trotted against Commodore Vanderbilt, Lady Thorn, Rhode Island, Confidence, Draco Prince, Fearnought, Geo. M. Patchen Jr., Mambrino Prince, Lucy, and American Girl, and attained a record of 2:22, having trotted fifty-six heats in 2:30 or better—more than any other son or daughter of Hambletonian, and more than three times as many as Dexter. Only four of the sons or daughters of Hambletonian have equaled the time record of Wilkes. He left the race course in the best of condition, and at a late period began a successful career in the stud. The most of his produce are yet too young to fully attest his merits as a sire.

He has, however, a showing which no other stallion so fast as he was can exhibit. He is sire of May Bird, a black mare that has a record of 2:21, and has 69 heats in 2:30 or better. Young Wilkes, a stallion now doing service, has a record of 2:29, with five heats. He also produced Girlie, that won the stake for three-year-olds. He has been at Lexington, Kentucky, for several years, and receives a liberal patronage, and will undoubtedly leave a produce that will still do honor to the name of George Wilkes and the family of Hambletonian.

#### HIS SONS.

He has two sons that are doing service as stallions, Young Wilkes and Robert Fillingham Jr., the former now owned in Chicago, and the latter in Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

#### KNICKERBOCKER

was foaled in 1865, by Hambletonian, 1st dam by George M. Patchen, 2d dam by Abdallah, and 3d dam by May Day. George M. Patchen

was by old Cassius M. Clay—the most distinguished stallion of his day—his 1st dam was by a son of imported Trustee. George M. Patchen was one of the most noted trotting stallions that has ever appeared on our trotting turf. His campaigns form a brilliant chapter in our turf history. May Day was a son of Henry, the celebrated son of Sir Archy, briefly sketched in a former chapter. The 1st dam of May Day was Flower by Duroc, from Young Damsel by Hambletonian, and she from Miller's Damsel by imported Messenger, and she was the dam of American Eclipse.

Thus it will be seen that Knickerbocker embraces one of the grandest combinations of blood to be found in any one stallion now before the public, and he is in reality a horse in every respect worthy so great a lineage. He was bred, and is still owned, by John E. Wood, of Middletown, N. Y., who owned and drove his dam for many years. She was a mare known as Lady Patchen, and was bred and owned in the vicinity of Philadelphia and in the adjacent regions of New Jersey, and driven as a road mare, and known to be able to trot in 2:40. Her dam was by Abdallah, and was also a superior road mare, and fast. All of these animals were so well known in the State of New Jersey, that the pedigree may be regarded as entirely authentic. Knickerbocker is one of the largest of the sons of Hambletonian, and for a horse full 16 hands high, or a fraction over, may be regarded as one of the best formed horses to be found anywhere. He is a rich, solid bay, black mane, tail and legs, and no white, except a large, rich spot or star in the forehead—a regular Bellfounder star, and only to be compared with that of the original Bellfounder.

When we come to a close inspection of the outline and form of Knickerbocker, and an analysis of his composition, and the part occupied by each, we are again presented with an interesting subject of study, and one from which many useful lessons may be derived. It is clear that Hambletonian is uppermost in the entire organism, and yet the positive blood forces of George M. Patchen, and the no less peculiar and distinctive features of Abdallah, each in certain places, stand out with handsome and commanding prominence. George M. Patchen is visible in the fine arched neck, and the graceful and finely proportioned contour of the whole animal. Abdallah is quite apparent in the head and ear; but the head is on the finer Abdallah pattern, and with the broad forehead, and handsome, full-orbed and prominent eye, gives him an appearance not surpassed by any representative of the true Abdallah pattern that I have ever seen. But the most

marked and noticeable feature is the peculiar hanging of the head on the neck, and which is striking at the first sight, but can not be described better than to say that it is a *fac-simile* of that which is seen in the portrait of imported Bellfounder. His jaws are wide apart, and his throttle clear and well formed.

The Bellfounder element is not conspicuous, except in the blended or Hambletonian form, which has, in fact, predominated over all other elements in the general make-up of the horse. But in this I wish to be understood, that it is only that manifestation of Bellfounder which appears in Hambletonian and in the average of his family. The distinctive and positive features of the Bellfounder blood, by which he was most clearly distinguishable in his individuality, do not clearly and positively appear in many of the sons of Hambletonian; but while saying this, it must be borne in mind that there is a great deal of Bellfounder in Hambletonian and many of his sons.

As I before stated, Knickerbocker is thoroughly and very completely Hambletonian in all his general characteristics. It has been said that the late Mr. Rysdyk pronounced Knickerbocker the best bred son of Hambletonian, but this I give on information. The one positive feature of the horse, which gives character to all of his produce, and will, in my opinion, amount to a family type, is the matter of gait. His own motion I have not seen, and can only judge of it by the way of going which he has impressed on his produce, with a degree of uniformity hardly surpassed by any of the other sons of Hambletonian. This is one of the evidences, to my mind, that he will prove a sire of strong impressive quality.

The gait of the young Knickerbockers is, in the main, and with very great uniformity, the joint product of the Abdallah and the Patchen or Clay blood, and it is quite difficult to determine which of these predominates. When we come to speak of gaits, and attempt to classify them, the Abdallah and the Clay or Patchen gait might be placed in the same general class, as in some respects they are similar; the main feature of which is, that they are a sort of polling or propelling gait, the chief action being apparent in the extended position of the hind legs. The animal leans forward, and seems really pushed or shoved ahead by the action of the hind legs, far extended in the rear. But to a mind or an eye accustomed to look closely, or to discriminate with nicety in this manner of going, there is a nice and a very perceptible difference in the two.

The Clay or Patchen gait is one that goes with an appearance of a

great expenditure of power. The legs extend far backward, and are drawn up and sent forward with apparently great muscular force and energy; hence they have the appearance of big-gaited trotters, although this term is also often used to describe a wide, open gait. The Clays are not generally, nor necessarily, wide, open-gaited, but they extend far out behind and reach far forward. Their measurement often appears long from hip to hock, and Knickerbocker's  $41\frac{1}{2}$  inches comes to him by legitimate right of inheritance from two lines of long-leverage ancestry. It is this extreme measurement and the great power, or rather appearance of power, with which they drive themselves forward, the body swaying to and fro, that gives them distinctive type or character of gait. It is, in appearance, a violent and demonstrative way of going, and, in reality, involves the expenditure of great propelling power; and it may be a question worthy of consideration, if the failure of some of this family to hold out in the race be not owing to their prodigal use of physical resources. If a horse possesses an unusually long measurement from hip to hock, it is a question to be considered whether he should not also have a long thigh—the one leverage rendering the other necessary also. The produce of Sayer's Harry Clay invariably have a long line from hip to hock, so far as I have met them—40 to 42 inches—and it is a noteworthy fact that the sires that have succeeded best with them have also had a long thigh—Volunteer 24 inches, and Messenger Duroc  $25\frac{1}{2}$  inches. But in this matter there are some apparent exceptions, which are controlled by location and power of muscle, as in the case of Lady Thorn, and by the character of that muscle, and the form or way in which it chiefly works.

The Abdallah gait is like that of the Clay in this, that the hind leg appears to extend backward much in the same line or manner as the Clay, but not so far, and is brought forward also much in the same line, though not so far, but with an elastic, springy motion—the very opposite of the violent and demonstrative, that gives the eye the impression that, in reality, no power at all is being expended. The legs appear to extend moderately, but do not really appear to bend, and the muscles work so easily that they do not seem to be working at all; the body appears to rock gently to and fro on four straight legs, and yet glides or dances along with an ease that can scarcely be described or even comprehended. The perfection of the Abdallah gait is seen in Goldsmith Maid; and the ease with which she will dance and glide along, her body gently swaying to and fro, and pass

over a mile in 2:20 or better, without making half the display of great trotting action that many make in going at 2:45, is marvelous to the eyes. The action of the pure Abdallah does not seem to depend on great mass of muscle. He is a lithe, sinewy fellow, and his joints have a spring about them that gives him a light, elastic bound at each step; he seems to roll, or rock, gently from side to side on each of his four feet, as if his legs were stiff and springy, but does it with such ease as to remind one of a herd of deer on the prairie when they come down from their long leaps to their lofty rocking-trot, in which they seem to employ no muscle at all and scarcely bend their limbs. The Abdallah horse is not one of long measure or skeleton (his thigh and length from hip to hock would, in a horse of 15 hands 3 inches in height, be about the Hambletonian average of 23—39 inches), but his agility and fleetness are due, in great measure, to the perfection of the materials of which he is made.

The Knickerbocker family show much of the gait I have last above described, but not in its easiest and finest types. The longer conformation, derived from the Patchen cross, and the vigorous way of going which is peculiar to that family, has imparted something of that form to the gait of the family under consideration. Instead of the light and lithe dancing gait of Goldsmith Maid they have one of great elasticity, but of more positive and vigorous propelling appearances, and at the same time not quite so demonstrative and slashing as that of the Clays and Patchens generally. On first seeing them move I was forcibly impressed with the belief that the well-bred daughters of Knickerbocker would be the best of all the second Hambletonians for brood mares to breed to the other best sons of the same family. Had I a finely-bred mare by Knickerbocker, possessed of the gait and qualities exhibited by all of his stock that I have ever seen, I would feel that I had one that would mate, with the very best possible promise of great excellence, with Volunteer, Florida, Administrator, Ahmont or Thorndale, and would, in my judgment, be far preferable to any daughter of Hambletonian himself. If I were to breed a son of Knickerbocker, I should like a mare by Volunteer for the dam; and if she had an Abdallah pedigree further back, it would be still more in her favor, as I should then hope to approach still nearer to the Abdallah gait in its finer form and higher perfection. Such breeding would also tend toward producing a stallion of far more impressive power, and one more distinctive in his type and character than if made up of more diverse elements.

I need only add that Knickerbocker is a horse 16 hands and one-half inch high on his withers, and one inch higher on his rump; has a measure of  $41\frac{1}{2}$  inches from hip to hock; and  $24\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length of thigh; is  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches in his front cannon-bone; and 22 inches in his forearm, which, for so large a horse, is a splendid measurement, and in as fine proportion as can be found in the Hambletonian family. The gait I have described in his produce is just such as should follow such proportions.

One or two suggestions will close this part of the present chapter. This horse is one that has been kept in the dark, and has had few or no mares deserving in excellence of his own rare combination of blood. His owner has not kept him at home as he should have been kept, and has not brought him into the notice of the breeding public in such manner as to allow his merits to be known. Much of the reputation, as well as success of a stallion, is owing to the manner in which he is held before the public by his owner.

He is certainly worthy of the patronage of the best mares of any family or blood, and in so far as he is deprived of them the breeding public is kept in ignorance of his real merits, inasmuch as he is kept for no other purpose than stud service, scarcely leaving the premises of his owner for shoeing. He has produced a few trotters of local fame that are very promising, but prior to 1875, none of his produce had ever been in the hands of a trainer, so far as I can learn. I should send to him with the greatest confidence.

#### BLACKSTONE.

This is a brown stallion, foaled in 1867. His dam was Dolly, by Jupiter; second dam the Simonson mare, by Abdallah, and the third dam by Engineer. He was bred by John G. Wood, of West Millbury, Mass.

His breeding shows a great concentration of the blood of Messenger. Jupiter was by Long Island Black, from Gipsy by Almack. Almack was bred by Mr. John Tredwell, of Long Island, the breeder of Abdallah. He was by Mambrino, and his dam was the mare called Sophonisba, and was for several years driven by Mr. Tredwell as the mate of Amazonia, the dam of Abdallah. Sophonisba was by a grandson of imp. Baronet, and was bred by Mr. Tredwell. Almack was foaled in 1823, the same year with Abdallah, and Jupiter was foaled in 1849, the same year with Hambletonian.

Blackstone has been kept in Massachusetts, and is little known away

from home. He is said to show excellent qualities as a roadster and as a sire. He has a three-year-old son in the West, owned by Wm. Bonner, Esq., of Beaver Dam, Wis. He is called Maitland, and was bred by David Bonner, Esq., of New York. His pedigree is as follows: By Blackstone—dam Dolly, by Parrish Hambletonian; second dam by Duroc Messenger; third dam by Russell's Eclipse; Parrish Hambletonian by Harris' Hambletonian, he by Bishop's Hambletonian, son of imp. Messenger.

One of the largest breeders of Wisconsin, and one of the best judges of horses known to me, describes this colt as quite equal to his pedigree, which certainly presents a combination of the finest trotting strains anywhere to be found.

This horse, while not strictly of the Clay cross, belongs, on the dam's side, to the Bashaw family, and hence his sketch is inserted here.

#### BLACK'S HAMBLETONIAN.

This is a bay stallion, foaled 1868. He is dark in color, has a large star, and below it a strip that extends downward to the end of the nose.

He was bred by C. R. Bull, of Orange county, New York, and is owned by S. Baxter Black, of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. He was bought by Mr. Black when one year old, from his breeder, for \$3,500. His dam was Kitt, by Long Island Blackhawk—a very superior mare, that could trot in three minutes.

He has been kept exclusively for stud purposes, but is a good gaited horse, and esteemed good for 2:30, with no great amount of handling. He is a good breeder, and has some very handsome produce. Though young, they can show in 2:40 or better, but have not been yet entered on the race courses. He is a cleanly formed horse, is fifteen and a half hands high, and has a splendid back and loin. He has good quarters, and shows the caste of the Hambletonian family in high degree.

His blood ought to make him a valuable horse, and such he is regarded, and will, with age, have the fruits to show for the excellence of his form and his high breeding.

This horse being also of the Bashaw cross is inserted here.

#### PEACEMAKER.

This is a brown stallion, foaled 1864. His first dam was Sally Feagles, by Smith's Clay; second dam by Hickory, son of Hickory

the thoroughbred. He was bred by Nathan Feagles, of Orange county, N. Y., and is owned by Mr. F. J. Nodine, of Brooklyn, and is at present in the possession of Gen. Tracy, at his breeding farm at Owego, N. Y.

Smith's Clay was, I believe, a son of either old Cassius M. Clay or of Neave's Cassius M. Clay Jr., a horse whose name has been either changed or one that has been lost to sight, as we find no clear traces of him in the *Trotting Register*.

Not having seen the stallion Peacemaker, I insert here the following account of him from the pen of Hark Comstock, the well known contributor, as found in *Wallace's Monthly*. It will be accepted by all as an accurate description of the stallion:

"PEACEMAKER stands about fifteen and a half hands upon short legs, and is a horse of immense substance. His color is better described as black-and-tan than brown, his coat is glossy and rich, and his general contour attractive. His disposition is fine, as evinced by a mild, intelligent countenance and obedient deportment. He has a clean neck, fine for a stallion, yet of the moderate length, that runs in the Hambletonian family. His shoulder is good, deep and strong, and well laid back, terminating in withers of but moderate height. His back, loin and quarters are cut in the mould of perfection, and he imparts them to most of his offspring. His legs and feet are well placed under him, and his poise is good. His stroke when moving is bold and far-striding. His action appears rather excessive for a performer of the highest order, but displays an elasticity and flexion usually liked in a sire. For some time I have been impressed with the belief that Peacemaker is destined to achieve an honorable distinction among trotting sires; yet so often is it the case, that matters of this kind of great promise, either from unseen deficiencies or faulty manipulation, come to naught, that I have always a hesitancy in expressing personal preferences, preferring to uphold the public record as the true guide, as indeed it is, for all purposes of general discussion and plans of operation. The deviations which circumstances suggest to each person for himself to determine are of course essential elements for consideration, but are subject to partisan prejudice for or against individual horses, to which there is no adequate answer until coming records decide disputed points. Therefore all such discussions are profitless. In December, 1876, I so far overstepped my expressed views on this point, as to call attention in the *Monthly* to the gelding Midnight, by Peacemaker, upon the strength of a private trial in his



then four-year-old form, in which he had, with very little handling, shown a mile in 2:29 $\frac{3}{4}$ . In doing so, I brought upon myself no little good-natured banter very justly bestowed, yet by good fortune the colt has since supported me in the departure, by making a first-class five-year-old record, in his first and only race, at the Grand Circuit Meeting of 1877, at Cleveland, Ohio, where he scored a second heat in 2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and a third in 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ , which, for the age, is directly among the very best of records. This performance is a heavy gain for Peacemaker as a sire, and shows that his possibilities under favorable circumstances are very great; probably no sire of his age has achieved a five-year-old of equal record. Unfortunately a waiting policy has been chosen by those who have controlled most of his get, and while several have had credit for much speed, they have been held back from the turf. The late Mr. Z. B. Van Wyck, of Flatbush, contemplated putting two of them forward this coming season. One was a young mare out of his favorite brood-mare, Nellie Moore, credited with a marvelous turn of speed, but not very steady; the other a seven-year-old gelding out of a mare by Iron Duke, son of Cassius M. Clay, that he paid me the compliment to name Comstock. His late owner assured me that, without professional aid, his boys had quickly developed him to a trial in 2:28 over a slow track, and he held great expectations of him for the year 1878. I do not altogether fancy his make-up, and am free to say that, while I know of few as comparatively green that have so much speed at command as he shows in brushes, I could select, from among the progeny of the same sire, others from whom I should expect greater ultimate results."

The record of this gelding, Midnight, stands at 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ , as stated in the foregoing. In looking over the catalogue of Mr. Nodine, I noticed several blacks in the list of the produce of Peacemaker, which attest his kinship to the produce of George Wilkes in the Clay blood.

Peacemaker has not received a large patronage, but the impression generally prevails among horsemen and breeders in the East that he is a horse of great superiority, and that he is yet likely to repeat the high mark he has set in his first scion in the 2:30 list.

It is stated that he has been placed in the custody of Gen. Tracy, at Owego, for a probable term of several years, and the high reputation he has already achieved will be likely to follow him into this new locality, where opportunities for reaching such valuable sires have not been so good, and we may look to the future of his career in the expectation of results not less cheery than the dawn which has for a paradox been heralded by the darkness of MIDNIGHT.

## HAMBLETONIAN PRINCE.

This stallion is a bay, foaled in 1863, and registered in the first volume of the *Trotting Register* by the name of Supervisor. He is owned by Messrs. David and Sidney A. Baird, of Otsego county, New York. Not having had an opportunity of inspecting this horse, and he being one that represents the class of strong and close breeding in the Messenger blood, I am unwilling to pass him without notice in this work. I therefore copy from *Wallace's Monthly* a description, from the pen of a well known correspondent of the turf journals, as follows:

“HAMBLETONIAN PRINCE.—Bay stallion, with off hind ankle white, and two small stars in forehead, one on the nose, with mottled flanks, fifteen and one-half hands high. Bred by Edwin Thorne, Thorndale, Dutchess county, New York; got by Rysdyk's Hambletonian, dam Nellie Cammeyer (who trotted in 2:32)—by Cassius M. Clay; g. d. by Chancellor, son of Mambrino; g. g. d. by Mount Holly, son of imp. Messenger; g. g. g. d. by Engineer, son of imp. Messenger. Hambletonian Prince was purchased by Mr. Baird, in February, 1872, of Mr. Joseph Mattison, New York. He had not served a mare up to the time of passing into Mr. Baird's hands, consequently his eldest colts are now only five years old. He is a stoutly made horse, capital legs and feet, very evenly balanced, quiet in disposition, yet full of life, and beautifully gaited. He was never regularly trained, but was driven by Alexander Patterson in 2:40, when four years old, and would trot very fast, if his engagements in the stud would permit of his being trained. One of the first of his get, Helene, chestnut filly, sold to W. B. Gould, Newark, New Jersey, won second money in the *Country Gentleman Stake* for three-year-olds, at Albany, in September, 1876, in 2:47½; and at the Otsego County Fair, two weeks later, she trotted in the mud in 2:46½. In 1877 she was trained but a little, as her new owner preferred to have a sound and coming trotter, rather than a broken-down colt, with a mere colt reputation. Still, with moderate work, she trotted in 2:36½. She is beautifully gaited, fifteen and three-quarter hands, and like all of his get, of endless endurance. Susan F. Cooper, owned by P. Kelly, West Troy, New York, of the same age, trotted a half mile, driven by her owner to a wagon in 1:20, and had not been to a track a half-dozen times. Happy Traveller, another of the same age, and out of Lady Larkin, owned by Mr. Hugh Huntington, South Charleston, Ohio, trotted a mile and repeat, this last fall, over a new and soft track in 2:35½ and 2:35. The per-

formance seemed so good that they took him to another track which was fast and firm, and he trotted seven-eighths of a mile, the length of the track, in 2:11½, being at the rate of 2:28 to the mile. He is a bay stallion fifteen and three-quarters hands. Had the performance been made over Buffalo Park, he would not be classed as second to any of the four-year-olds of 1877. Another of his get, Clifford G., trotted a half mile, the first time to a sulky, at Waverly Park, New Jersey, last fall, in 1:24; and the bay colt, Horace F. Jones, also by him, was taken up from pasture last fall, shod and brought to a track, won a heat in 3:06, and had never been driven enough to break him to harness. Among the noted mares that were stunted to him last season were: Gazelle, record 2:21; Lady Larkin (dam of Lady Varick and Happy Traveller); Madge Golddust by Golddust Jr., and the dam of Belle of Otsego.

“We were at Mount Wellington Stock Farm last fall, and a close scrutiny of the youngsters left us with no other impression than that here was a great young sire. But even before we looked over his get, we expected to see just what we did; for his high breeding and deep dipping into the prized Messenger blood, having but two outcrosses, that of Bellfounder and Cassius M. Clay (both good enough for the most fastidious), gives the converts to the Messenger theory a strong point for argument, when they glance at the breeding of this stallion, and calculate the chances of his success as a stock-getter, for it seems as if he must get trotters by the operation of the natural law of reproduction—like producing like; and so far the results have been marvelous under none too favorable conditions. He has good size, plenty of substance, is full of quality all over, can speed fast, is a perfect-tempered horse, and is bred to the Queen’s taste. If anything more than this can be asked, it is for him to produce trotters; and this he is doing as fast as possible.”

I sincerely regret that I have not seen the horse, as I am quite sure he would furnish some points worthy of very close consideration and careful study. The characteristics of this horse as they would appear from his breeding—not having seen him—are easily delineated. The pedigree is one of the strongest in Messenger blood. The blood of Messenger in the composition of Hambletonian would be so far reinforced in the dam of this horse as to make him one of the strongest and closest in that blood anywhere to be found.

The dam Nellie Cammeyer, was by Cassius M. Clay, a horse of Messenger descent; second dam by Chancellor, son of Mambrino;

third dam by Mount Holly, son of Messenger; fourth dam by Engineer, son of Messenger. The dam of Chancellor was by Messenger, hence the dam of this stallion had five close and direct crosses of the blood of Messenger, all in four generations.

This composes one of the strongest concentrations of the blood of Messenger anywhere to be found. The dam of Henry Clay, the sire of Cassius M. Clay, was the Canadian mare Surry, as before stated, and she would give an increase of leverage, and this tendency toward an elongation there would meet with a further reinforcement in the blood of Bellfounder in Hambletonian, but whether the elongation could be maintained against such overpowering force of Messenger blood, can only be told by an inspection of the animal. In the other Clay Hambletonians, the length of leverage is reinforced by the Bellfounder element and the combined force of the two whose tendencies are in that direction show their force as against the opposing tendencies; but in the later branches of the Clay family, the increased length has in most cases disappeared. Such, I should apprehend, would be the case with this stallion, and further, that like his sire he would breed shorter in his produce than in his own measure. That he will be very positive in his Messenger caste can not be doubted, and his success will be greatest where he can find crosses that afford opposite qualities from his own.

He is a strongly in-bred stallion, and should excel in Duroc, St. Lawrence and other Canadian crosses, and also with the daughters of Sayer's Harry Clay. He and Knickerbocker would find in Kentucky the class of mares in abundance best suited to their composition. The Duroc-Messenger or Mambrino and Pilot mares will call out their chief excellences.

This stallion took a high rank with his produce at a recent State fair in the State of New York, and his rich strains of the blood of Messenger will make him very attractive. If, however, the superiority of our trotters of Hambletonian blood depends upon the proper balance or equipoise between the respective blood forces that unite in them, then the weight is too heavy in the Messenger scale, and his success will depend on the quality of the outcrosses with which he is mated.

#### IDOL AND ELECTIONEER.

IDOL is a bay stallion 15 hands  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height, with white near front heel and white hind ankles; foaled in 1864—bred by Gabriel Wood, of Orange county, New York—by Hambletonian. First dam

Hattie Wood (dam of Gazelle), by Sayer's Harry Clay; second dam Grandmother, by Terror, son of Eclipse, by Long's Eclipse; third dam Jennett, by Cock of the Rock—he by Duroc—dam Romp by imp. Messenger.

This is the later pedigree given by the owner of this stallion upon what is regarded satisfactory authority. He is owned by Charles Backman, Stony Ford, Orange county, N. Y.

ELECTIONEER is a bay stallion, 15 hands  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height, with white hind ankles—foaled 1868, by Hambletonian. Dam Green Mountain Maid (dam of Prospero, Dame Trot, Miranda, etc.), by Sayer's Harry Clay. He was bred by Charles Backman, of Stony Ford, and is now owned by Gov. Leland Stanford, of Sacramento, California.

“Hark Comstock,” a well known contributor to the turf journals, thus describes Idol:

Idol is a handsome, smoothly made horse of fine finish. He is in action what is called big-gaited, and his stroke pure and even, going well apart behind and possessing none of the shuffling action frequently shown by his full sister, Gazelle, at half speed. In his four-year-old form he received a short course of handling at Carl Burr's, and showed extra promise of speed, but it became necessary to interrupt his training and return him to the stud to fill the gap caused by the sickness of old Hambletonian, to whom the Stony Ford mares were heavily booked. He has since remained in the stud, and is, therefore, undeveloped. The get of Idol evidently require more age to determine their value for trotting purposes than those of Messenger Duroc. They possess wiry, enduring qualities that promise to enable them to undergo the severe preparation necessary to develop the best rates of speed and staying qualities.

The same writer in the same sketch thus speaks of Electioneer:

Electioneer possesses a powerfully knit frame, well harnessed with muscle. His head and neck are plain, shoulders powerful and well thrown back, withers broad and rather low, back short, loin full and well braced with tillets of muscle reaching back into his powerful quarters, below which his propelling points are powerfully defined. He is deep through the heart, with well sprung ribs and good in the flank as well. His limbs are of the clean, hard, wiry sort, and are well supported by excellent feet. He is a horse of great speed, which has been entirely developed at Stony Ford. His gait is long and low, and carries him with the least possible apparent expenditure of force. He never appeared in a race.

I may say further, that Electioneer and Idol both show the extra cross of Bellfounder blood derived through their dams, the daughters of Sayer's Harry Clay. Electioneer is 40 inches in length in the line

from the centre of the hip to the outer edge of the hock, and is 24 inches in the length of his thigh. His weight is given at 1,000 pounds, and is perhaps 1,050. I have not the measurements of Idol; but have seen him, and suppose he is substantially like Electioneer. There is probably no difference in the length of the two horses, although Electioneer has a very short back, his shoulder-blades extending far back and coupling forward—he has the appearance of a short horse. They do not differ materially in appearance—Idol having the appearance of a horse of very even and smooth outline—each of them showing high breeding, and the highest type in matter of quality to be found in the Hambletonian family. The two mares that respectively produced these two stallions are two of the best daughters of Harry Clay, and two of the best mares to be found anywhere. Hattie Wood, the dam of Idol, produced his full sister, Gazelle—2:22—the second in speed of the daughters of Hambletonian. She is also the dam of Louis Napoleon, the very promising son of Volunteer. She has also produced another son, Victor Bismarck, by Hambletonian, full brother to Idol and Gazelle.

Green Mountain Maid has given reputation to Messenger Duroc in her son Prospero—2:20—and her daughters Dame Trot, Miranda and Elaine—2:28—at three years old, and is regarded in breeding circles as a mare without a superior anywhere. Hambletonian has not succeeded in producing a fast trotter from mares of Bellfounder blood in more than two instances, and one of these was the mare Gazelle—sister to Idol—and if the pedigree is correct, her dam was a mare strong in Duroc blood, the very element that would float the Bellfounder and render it available, as already shown. The grandam of Gazelle was by Terror, by son of Long's Eclipse, he by American Eclipse, son of Duroc; and the next dam by Cock of the Rock, a son of Duroc. No better antecedent for the Bellfounder cross could be found, as I have already shown in Chapters IX and X. Hence the success of Gazelle is easily accounted for, without regarding her as exceptional to the rule that her sire was a failure with Bellfounder mares.

It can not be said that the success of Idol as a stallion has been equal to the expectations of his early friends. I have seen his produce, but have not been prepossessed with them. He does not adhere tenaciously to the matter of color, as might be expected from a double cross of Bellfounder. He often breeds chestnuts. Thus far in the matter of trotting quality, he can not be said to have shown

that he was a sire of powerful impressiveness. Electioneer can not be estimated by any produce he has left, as I am not aware that he has yet produced anything that would indicate his character as a sire. Of each of these stallions the record may perhaps be made up as it has with Sayer's Harry Clay. They may not shine as brilliant stars, and the world may not regard them as having great or valuable qualities, until they shall have reached the age of twenty years, and it shall be discovered in the excellence of their daughters that the blood of the Norfolk trotter in them comes out with a new radiance and increased lustre. As breeding sires they will be most likely to show some degree of similarity toward Harry Clay. If they fulfill their mission with the same degree of success, the breeders of this country may have occasion to profit by their having lived.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### HAMBLETONIANS—IN-BRED ABDALLAHS.

#### LAKELAND ABDALLAH.

IN my first chapter, while treating of the subject of in-breeding, I expressed the opinion that, in general, no half-brothers and sisters should be mated—that no daughter of Abdallah should be sent to Hambletonian.

The real excellence of the two stallions for our immediate consideration, will be almost taken as sufficient to controvert the correctness of the position there assumed. Their superiority as individuals and as sires must be admitted, while at the same time it does not clearly appear but that they would have each been greater and more successful stallions had they been one remove further from Abdallah, as in the case of the third stallion, to be considered in this chapter. Besides this, the first two stallions have in the blood of their dams a combination of the precise elements already indicated in this work, as the best yet discovered to unite with, mould and control the Abdallah blood, in the composition of our American roadster—the blood of Bellfounder in one and that of Duroc in the other—and the greatness of the third named stallion lies in the two-fold fact that the blood of Abdallah was distant the one proper remove, and in union with the blood of Duroc in the best form that could have been selected. Each of the three affords a subject worthy of our careful study.

LAKELAND ABDALLAH was foaled in 1865, and was by Hambletonian; first dam Enchantress, by Abdallah; second dam by imp. Bellfounder, as given, although this latter part of the pedigree has of late been questioned on grounds that do not appear to me admissible. This horse was bred by Mr. Charles S. Dole, of Chicago. Having reached a certain conclusion with regard to the lines of blood he wanted in a stallion, he set out to breed one.



He gives the account clearly, and I adopt the following in his own words:

Recognizing, as early as 1860, the pre-eminent merits of Old Abdallah as a progenitor of fast, stout and enduring trotters, I set about to find one of his descendants combining the greatest possible amount of his blood, together with the highest order of individual excellence, to use in the stud; but failing to find a stallion that, in every particular, conformed to my ideal, I abandoned the search in that direction, and began to look for a daughter of Abdallah, from which to breed my ideal stallion. After a long search, I found a mare that had formerly done duty in a livery stable in New York City, that seemed to "fill the bill" exactly. She was a brown, with some white hairs around the root of the tail, which she carried very high; had a very fine head; sharp, pointed ear; an expressive, prominent, hazel eye; was deep in the chest; had great length of body in proportion to her height, and was noted for her great qualities as a fast, stout, game and speedy roadster.

I was satisfied at the time, from my own investigations, that the breeding of the mare was precisely in accordance with the certificate which I received with the bill of sale, which was as follows:

[BILL OMITTED.]

PEDIGREE.—Enchantress, by Abdallah, he by Mambrino, he by imp. Messenger. Dam of Enchantress by imp. Bellfounder. Enchantress was bred by Mr. Blakesley, of Orange county, N. Y.  
J. W. WILSON.

I then sent the mare Enchantress to Chester, Orange county, N. Y., to be bred to Rysdyk's Hambletonian; and, in order to "make assurance doubly sure" as to her breeding, I especially urged Mr. Rysdyk to make a thorough investigation as to her pedigree. This he assured me he would do; and, when the mare was finally taken away from his place, having the colt *Harold*, now owned by A. J. Alexander, of Kentucky, by her side, and being again in foal by Hambletonian, the produce being Lakeland Abdallah, Mr. Rysdyk sent me the following certificate:

CHESTER, Nov. 22, 1864.

PEDIGREE of a bay colt, without any white, foaled September 14, 1864, bred by Charles S. Dole, sired by Hambletonian, dam by Old Abdallah, grandam by imported Bellfounder. The above mare was served again, by Hambletonian, September 23, 1864. The above pedigree I believe to be correct.

WM. M. RYSDYK,

Chester, Orange Co., N. Y.

Some twelve years after this, and when Mr. Blakesley, the breeder of Enchantress, was dead, an effort was made, at the instance of Mr. Dole, to trace the pedigree, and nobody could be found to verify the Bellfounder cross. I have examined the statements made in regard to the matter, and do not feel warranted in overturning the statements and belief of those who knew the facts at an earlier day.

Lakeland Abdallah is a bright, clear or solid bay stallion, 15 hands 2 inches high, and weighs 1,075 to 1,100 lbs. He is evenly formed,



LAKELAND ABDALLAH.



has a finely shaped head—bony and lean, but well shaped—very little of the Abdallah or Roman form, none of the thinness of front profile often seen in the family, wide between the eyes, and high in the apex or poll, with a long, clean and sharp ear—a perfect Abdallah ear; a full eye, that seems never to sleep or grow dim; an even and well formed neck, not so short as that of his sire; a compact, full breast and shoulder, rising to withers of fair but not great elevation; a round barrel—regular Bellfounder body; round and full at the hips, over the croup and in the hindquarter, close and compactly built, with the thigh or gaskin stout and full down to a hock that is perfection; feet and legs of the most superb kind; a nice mane; a tail not very heavy, and getting rather light close to the dock, but not much lacking yet; and in the whole outline, a horse of as fine form as can anywhere be found—as compact as if he had been cast of molten lead.

But all this outline gives no idea of the high quality, lofty spirit and nerve organism of intense and positive character which he displays in the box or outside. He displays a brain power, that to the most casual observer is immense. No animal can anywhere be found that outwardly shows evidence of a brain and nerve power of more intensity or greater compass and power. He is in every lineament and feature, a Messenger of the Messengers, and an Abdallah everywhere. He who would govern this horse, must do it with intelligence and kindness, for if it should come to a question of mastery by brute force and power of will, the horse would most likely be the superior. Nowhere can a better illustration of the high nervous organization and proud spirit of old Messenger or of Abdallah be found than in this horse. He is withal a horse of a kindly disposition and fond of the caresses of his acquaintances—but a little as Bush Messenger was to those who succeeded his early master, whom he would follow as a dog follows the hand that feeds and pets him. Bush Messenger, in his advanced years, was regarded in the light of a man-eater, even by those who had charge of him. Upon one occasion, the veteran turfman from whom he took his name, visited the place, and went into the lot where the old horse was grazing, in spite of the warnings of an old lady, who declared he would be eaten up; but when the old stallion heard the sharp whistle that awakened memories of by-gone years, he came charging over the lot with nostrils wide extended, the most perfect picture of intense excitement, until he beheld his old master, and going up to him was ready almost to lie down at his feet from very joy; receiving his kindly caresses, he fol-

lowed him all over the lot, to the wonder and astonishment of the people at the house, who did not understand the secret tie that bound the old horse to this grey-haired man, whom they expected to see so speedily devoured. Lakeland Abdallah has some of the same character, and he brooks no familiarity from strangers, but is kind and docile to those with whom he is well acquainted.

The form of this stallion indicates much of the Messenger—he shows Messenger in his solidity, his compactness, his perfection of limb, and superior muscular organism, his high and lofty spirit, and intense nerve organization; but he shows little of the eccentricities of form that marked Abdallah. He shows the long sharp ears, but that is about all. His form is not of the flat sided or cat-hammed kind, that distinguished Abdallah, and he has none of the light shades of color that come out in the strong Abdallahs. The Bellfounder in color and form is apparent in him in every point, except the ear. He has all of the rotundity and massive parts of Bellfounder. His breast, shoulder, barrel, loin—a superb one—hip and quarters, are all Bellfounder, and there is hardly a strong Abdallah feature about him, except his long, sharp ears and rather light tail. The internal evidences of his grandam being by Bellfounder are very strong, and with the straight forward and authentic history of the dam and grandam, as given by those who knew the animals in their own day and generation, are very hard to overturn, and should not be doubted at this distant period, except upon contrary proofs of more than a merely negative character.

His appearance is that of a horse that carries with him a concentration of the particular qualities by which he is distinguished. There is nothing heterogeneous in his composition.

Any one familiar with the qualities of the Bellfounder and the Messenger horse will find in him an instance of the highest concentration of these qualities—close to the original. I think the exception to be taken to the animal is in the fact that he is so close to the original. His close in-breeding is apparent, and undoubtedly it is somewhat against him, although it will certainly intensify his power and quality as a sire. The perfection of these elements which he embodies in such concentrated form will come out in breeding, with great power and positiveness.

I think I have already shown in previous chapters that the blood of Messenger and of Bellfounder had proved most available when it had passed through certain degrees of removal from the original. And herein lies the force of the only exception that can be taken to Lake-

land Abdallah. He is too close to the original, both in the Messenger and the Bellfounder. His own descendants will let out in high degree the excellences that are shut up in his close in-breeding. As a sire he is a good horse, as is known to all who have ever seen one of his colts. I have heard it said that almost any horse can produce a poor colt, but I have never heard of a colt of this horse that was not prized as a good one. I have known his produce ever since the first year's foals, and I have never heard a man express an exception to one of them.

Having owned several of them and having seen very many, and knowing the owners of perhaps the majority of his produce, I can only call to mind the universally high appreciation in which they are held. They are large, of good colors, high in form, perfect in health, and in many cases show very superior trotting qualities. While I can not speak from the record of any that have been trained, I can say that in the Northwest no family of horses will command the prices that can be realized on the produce of Lakeland Abdallah. I know but little of his sons, and am of the impression that they are not as numerous as his daughters, but wherever there is one of the latter the owner holds her for road or breeding purposes, conceiving her to be unequalled for such use. Several have been driven and some have trotted in races, but the highest estimate seems to be placed on them for road and breeding purposes, and a mare by Lakeland Abdallah is regarded as no ordinary breeding stock. His stock, so far as I have any personal acquaintance with them, have not shown the decided leaning toward the Abdallah model, which would have been displayed had the extra Bellfounder cross been lacking. The even balance between the two bloods seems to have been maintained with great uniformity.

The history of this horse has been like that of many others. His owner did not esteem him as highly as a four and five-year-old as he did after he had sold him, and his first and second year's produce came to the age of two and three years. They established his value, and there was just a sufficient number of them scattered about to make the sentiment almost universal in the West that he was a golden sire. He was repurchased at a price about six times the sum realized for him a short period before.

His owner and breeder is a man of the rarest enthusiasm in horse breeding. With him no pursuit ranks so high or is regarded so ennobling, and he pursues it in its loftiest heights. He has the

means, and when his mind fastens on a line of breeding that is anchored deep in rich blood, he goes for it, regardless of the cost. His perception of the excellences of a strain of blood are quick; his ideas are clear, and his enthusiasm in pursuing that line is unbounded. Such was the impulsive nature that gave us this horse. With his mind clearly set on the type or character of the horse he desired, he stopped not until he found the mare he wanted, eight hundred miles from his home and business, and he adhered to the line marked out until he had two stallions, full brothers. Harold, the very popular stallion now owned at Woodburn Farm, by Mr. Alexander, is one; Lakeland Abdallah is the other. Harold shows more of the in-breeding and more of the Bellfounder than Lakeland. He is not so large, but breeds very many equal in size to the largest stallions in Kentucky. His strong and close concentration of the blood of the two great families of Bellfounder and Abdallah, as found in Hambletonian, make him a popular horse.

#### HIS SONS.

Lakeland Abdallah has one son, named Scott—foaled in 1870. His dam was by Mambrino Pilot; second dam by Herr's Boston, son of Boston, and his third dam by Bertrand. He is a large horse, very compact and muscular—a dark bay; and when I saw him as a four-year-old, he was a horse of very superior trotting action, and was regarded as a young trotting stallion that combined elements of great value. He certainly will make a trotter and a reproducer.

Another son, owned by Hon. A. M. Herrington, of Geneva, Ill., is now three years old, that is a colt of the highest degree of quality. His dam is Wild Jane, by Little Cassius; second dam Flight by Seely's American Star, and third dam said to be by Nigger Lance, son of Lance by American Eclipse. Little Cassius, by old Cassius M. Clay, from Starlight by American Star. This is the pedigree given for Jane, and supposed to be correct. The colt is about what might be expected from such a union of the blood of Lakeland Abdallah, Cassius M. Clay and American Star. His trotting action and his intense nervous organism is of most surpassing character.

He has another three-year-old son named Elysian Abdallah. First dam, Roving Nellie, by Strader's Cassius M. Clay; second dam by Berthune; third dam by Rattler, by imp. Spread Eagle. He has shown himself already as a fast trotter, and is regarded as one of the most promising young trotting stallions in the Northwest. He is owned by Messrs. De Graffe of Janesville, Minnesota.

STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.

This is a bay stallion foaled in 1861—was by Hambletonian. First dam the Beaks mare by Abdallah; second dam by Shakspeare; third dam by Young Bashaw. Shakspeare was by Duroc, dam by Plato, son of Messenger. She was also the dam of Post Boy, son of Duroc. Young Bashaw was by imp. Grand Bashaw, and his grandam was the daughter of Messenger, which has given the trotting character and renown to the Bashaw and Clay families.

This stallion is owned by H. Swift and Son, Forestville, Chautauqua county, N. Y. His breeding makes him a valuable stallion in the last two crosses especially—one of the best anywhere to be found. His success in the stud has been equal to his excellence in blood.

From the first crosses in the composition of this horse much of his character is apparent from what has been said of Lakeland Abdallah, although he probably shows more of the Abdallah. The Duroc-Messenger mare which was his grandam would not stand in the way or impede the full force of the Abdallah blood as did the grandam of Lakeland Abdallah. It would yield it more of the true Abdallah and Messenger character and still exercise sufficient influence to affect the outward manifestations of trotting quality in the horse. No better soil could anywhere be found for the growth and full development of an Abdallah trotting sire than that furnished by a Duroc-Messenger mare just such as the grandam of this stallion. It is with me a most profound conviction that if Abdallah from such a mare as this grandam—she being a first-class mare aside from her blood composition—had produced a son, we should have seen a stallion that surpassed the greatest and best horse we have yet produced.

The Duroc-Messenger composite was such as would develop to a perfect growth all the highest qualities of the great trotting combination. This grandam, in point of blood constituents, was really one of great superiority. No better could have been found anywhere. From her, Hambletonian would have produced a great stallion; from her daughter, the Beaks mare, he would produce one that would doubtless be a good one, but with a concentration of Abdallah that would stamp his characteristic points very powerfully on the horse produced.

He is no doubt a good Hambletonian—but more certainly a strong Abdallah. He will, doubtless, show great positiveness in his breeding qualities. His produce will be strong in their Messenger character, but while the Bellfounder traits will appear diminished they will not



be wholly effaced, and when opportunity is offered in suitable combinations the genius and spirit of Bellfounder will come out in spite of the odds against it.

By the writers and breeders of this day his success as a stallion will be ascribed to his concentration of the blood of Abdallah, which is not correct.

This concentration of Messenger and Abdallah blood of itself would have been against his success. He is a successful stallion in spite of that very concentration; but his success is due to the agency of the Duroc blood, which has served as the intermediate—which caused the other two great bloods to fuse in harmony, and to each yield their excellences in the union which the three compose. Had just such a cross as this Shakspeare, or any other good Duroc-Messenger cross (not an immediate Duroc cross, remember), but just such as this—intervened between the Charles Kent mare and her own Messenger dam, then would Abdallah have found a field from which to raise a son with no alloy, no bars of impediment, and Hambletonian would have shown that quality of universal impressiveness which he notably lacked, and which distinguishes Messenger Duroc, Administrator, Almont, Florida and Mambrino Chief far above himself. Duroc, I repeat, was not a trotter and got no trotters, but as a factor in the American trotting horse the value of the Duroc-Messenger union can not be estimated.

I have no reports or information relative to the success of this stallion, in his own immediate vicinity or elsewhere, save that found in the record of 2:30 trotters on the public courses. He is sire of Idol, a bay mare with a record of 2:23, and 14 heats in 2:30 or better; Versailles Girl, bay mare, record of 2:25½ and 4 heats, and Weston, 2:30. His record thus far encourages the belief that he will stand as one of the best and most successful sons of Hambletonian.

#### LYSANDER.

This stallion is entered in the first volume of the *Trotting Register* simply as a horse; neither his age, color, name of his breeder or owner, is given. I suppose his owner and breeder did not think he possessed any or sufficient value to justify inserting the above particulars, for the price that covered the bare mention of his name would have satisfied the entire bill. The fault was not with the very careful compiler, but with the owner. One thing of value, however, is stated, namely, that his dam was by Abdallah Chief; and, while it is not

stated that the sire of such dam was Roe's Abdallah Chief, I will hope and even assume that such was the case, as this would give me a mare to my liking, as the dam of a good sire from Hambletonian. The blood of Abdallah is presented in the exact form in which I should prescribe it, namely, in the Duroc-Messenger compound—the dam of Abdallah Chief being by Phillips, he by Duroc, and his dam by Messenger, the second dam of Abdallah Chief being further by Decatur, and his dam by American Eclipse, son of Duroc, dam by Messenger—and if there was some more Messenger and not much Duroc in the background, still better; but accepting it as it is, or rather as I suppose it to be, this stallion asserts a value which his breeder and owner did not attribute to him in having produced the trotter Lysander Boy, that in a single season came before the public unheralded and unannounced, and trotted 16 heats in 2:30 or better, and marked a record of 2:23—all in his first year—and as his record is a good one and the breeding of his sire suits me, I will forgive his owner and breeder the oversight displayed in not placing him properly before the public.

The lesson drawn from the success of these stallions will be of value in our several breeding plans of the future.

## CHAPTER XV.

### OTHER HAMBLETONIANS.

#### CUYLER.

AMONG the other sons of Hambletonian entitled to consideration, the stallion Cuyler, owned by Messrs. J. C. McFerran & Son, Louisville, Ky., may be named as a horse occupying a prominent position.

He was foaled 1868, and was bred by Charles Backman, Stony Ford, Orange county, N. Y. He is a rich bay stallion, fifteen hands three inches high; weighs, in fair condition, 1,120 lbs.; has a near hind ankle white, a star in the forehead, and a few white hairs in the flank. He is very kind and docile, and from head to foot is a finely formed animal, very evenly and smoothly built.

His form for beauty and symmetry is not surpassed by any son of Hambletonian. He is a very lengthy appearing horse. In his front leverage he is  $11\frac{1}{2}$  for the front cannon and  $21\frac{1}{4}$  for the forearm; his rear leverage is  $39\frac{1}{2}$  inches from hip to hock, and  $23\frac{1}{4}$  in length of thigh.

His gait is a very fine one. He does not spread his hind feet wide apart, but lifts his hocks close to his body and in true line. His front leg action is also even, and with a rounding or rolling motion of the front feet, lifting his knees moderately and bending them, but not striking the ground hard. All the horses descending from the Harris Hambletonian stock have a similar gait.

The stallion Joe Brown displays a gait very much like that of Cuyler. I observe the owners of Cuyler, like many others, seem to think the excellence of their horse consists in large part in the number of strains of the blood of Messenger he possesses. The real excellence of this stallion lies in the *excellence* of the strains of Messenger blood represented in him, rather than in their number.

The dam of Cuyler was a mare named Grey Rose, and she lived to



RAND-MENALLY-CO.

CUYLER.



the age of thirty-three years. She was by Harris' Hambletonian, son of Bishop's Hambletonian, the son of Messenger that was claimed to be thoroughbred, and was at first named Hamiltonian. His dam was a grey mare of unknown blood, and since the superiority of the Messenger family became so universally known, and especially this branch of it, attempts have been made to prove that this mare was a daughter of Messenger.

Some years since, a very intelligent gentleman in the State of Vermont, where both of these horses spent their days and were best known, investigated the question with the former owners and keeper of the horse and gave the public a lengthy statement, from which I take the following:

Harris' Hambletonian was bred by Isaac Munson, of Wallingford, Vt., in 1823. Mr. Munson was then in the occupancy of a farm in Wallingford, owned by a wealthy brother of his, residing in or near Boston, Mass. About 1814 he procured and sent up from Massachusetts, for the use of the farm, a pair of gray mares. The season of 1822 Bishop's Hambletonian was standing at East Granville, N. Y., but a few miles distant from Wallingford. Mr. Munson bred both mares that season to Bishop's Hambletonian. One of them did not prove in foal; the other, from that service, became the dam of Harris' Hambletonian. Mr. Hiram Eddy then and previously resided in Wallingford with his father, within three-fourths of a mile of the place where the mare was kept, and often saw her. She was a dapple gray, about 16 hands high, a smooth built, trim limbed, and rather stylish mare. She was a good, fair, smart traveler, but it was never claimed or intimated that she was a fast trotter, or very extraordinary in that particular. Nothing was said at the time about her breeding, except that she was called an *English* mare, by which was meant that she possessed some share of thoroughbred blood, which was indicated by her form and appearance. When Harris' Hambletonian was two years old, Mr. Munson sold him to Messrs. George Eddy, Samuel Edgerton, and Lincoln Andrews, all of Wallingford, by whom he was owned, and allowed to serve mares until he was five years old.

They then sold him to Samuel Eddy, of Bristol, Vt., and his father, John Eddy, kept the horse for some years at New Haven, Vt. When thirteen or fourteen years old, Hiram Eddy (my informant) and George Eddy bought the horse, and for two years stood him in Wallingford, Danby and Dorset. They then sold him, and he afterward passed into the hands of Joshua Remington, of Huntington, Vt. He stood him in Huntington and vicinity for such a length of time that he became well known, and was commonly called the "Remington horse."

He subsequently passed into the hands of Russell Harris, of New Haven, Vt., by whom he was owned and kept until the time of the horse's death, which occurred in December, 1847. Since the ownership of Mr. Harris he has commonly been called Harris' Hambletonian. Harris' Hambletonian was a horse of great substance, fully sixteen hands high, of the same color as his

dam, a dapple gray, and as he grew older the dapples became smaller, and he had more of a flea-bitten appearance. He was not as smooth and elegant in form as his dam, but was more bony and coarse in his formation. His legs were stout and large, and Mr. Eddy says that to make him answer as well as possible the demand of those times, they found it expedient to keep his legs closely trimmed, to give them a lighter and more delicate appearance than with their natural covering they presented. His head was long, slim and bony, but with good width between the eyes. His tail and mane were fair. He was broken to all harness, and never showed indications of a really vicious temper. He was not often hitched up in carriages, but, as was then more the custom, was often ridden.

He was a good, square, unmixed-gaited trotter, and though he had the power and speed to enable him in a common hitch-up to go 75 miles a day without distress, he was not boasted of as a fast trotter, and may never have made a mile much quicker than four minutes; though Mr. Eddy thinks that with such training as horses suspected of extra speed receive nowadays he might have trotted easily in three minutes or better. At a time when his services as a stallion would have been of the most value to the country they were in moderate demand, since foals were insured by him at from three to five dollars. His colts did not fully mature until seven or eight years old, and from three to six years old were bony, rough, and rather lathy. On the common feed of farmers they looked angular and carried little flesh. Breeders of that class then greatly preferred to raise colts of a more pony mould, that more readily took on flesh and were almost mature at three and four years old. When the Hambletonian was fully ready for business he would sell for twice as much, and came at length to be well known; but when not needed for the breeder for any kind of service, a considerable expense had to be incurred in maturing him.

Not until the last of his life was Harris' Hambletonian a popular stallion. Neither the form nor appearance of himself or his get indicated that he was finely or highly bred. His own sire, Bishop's Hambletonian, did not stand so high on the roll of fame as more lately. It had not then come to be claimed or supposed that all trotting excellence was to be found in the descendants of imp. Messenger. The Morgans were then in the height of their popularity especially in Vermont, and Messenger in the pedigree of stock horses was not always printed in glowing capitals, and displayed as many times as possible. An astute horseman, here and there, had discovered that the Hambletonian colts, when matured, were equaled by few, if any, then raised here. Among them was Mr. Cotrill, of Montpelier, Vt., then one of the largest and most successful stage proprietors in the country—a business at that time of no small importance. He is reported as having often said that he found the Hambletonians, for staging purposes, rapid roading, with heavy weight pulling, much superior to all others.

A large share of the colts by Harris' Hambletonian were gray, and for several generations the distinguishing characteristics of the family were distinctly marked. For reasons already suggested, but few of his immediate male descendants were saved for stock purposes. Mr. Eddy never heard of but three or four, and has but little knowledge of but two.

\* \* \* \* \*

Fillies of the third and fourth generation are sought after as brood mares.

\* \* \* \* \*

Of the breeding of Harris' Hambletonian, on the sire's side, there is no shadow of doubt. Of his dam, I think all that can be fairly and reasonably said is, that it was unknown. Mr. Wallace states, in the first volume of his "Trotting Register," that at the time when Mr. Munson purchased her she was represented to be by imp. Messenger.

The dam of this stallion was bought for stage purposes and sent from Boston to Vermont, and was a mare of great quality and endurance at the way of going then required for stage purposes. Whatever may have been her blood, she had good blood, and she had habits of muscle and nerve that adapted her to road service—habits which had been acquired by service in that particular way, and she transmitted them to the son she produced, and he became one of the most noted sires of roadsters we have ever known. His trotting character may be altogether due to the blood of old Messenger, but that blood which he received had gone through the important processes by which the galloping instinct of the Arab had been eliminated, and the trotting instinct, inherited from Sampson, had by use and road crosses become so far invigorated and reinforced that it constituted the essential spirit and genius of the horse. He was a great trotting sire, and a line from him is worth more, perhaps, than any other line from Messenger, outside of Abdallah.

I make the following interesting compilation from another source:

The Harris horse was taken early to Vermont, and being a gray, rather large, and a somewhat plain-looking horse as compared with the stylish, trappy Morgan so popular in that day, his opportunities in the stud were limited. What he accomplished, however, under his unfavorable surroundings, proves unmistakably that with an equal chance he would have been the peer of or any other ever in the stud. We will name some of his produce, taken from the *records of winners*, as indicating his ability to get trotters and to transmit the power of reproduction to his descendants. It will be admitted that in his day, considering the great improvement made in tracks, wagons, driving, etc., 2:40 was equal to 2:20 or 2:25 at the present time.

He was sire of Old Sontag, long the queen of the turf (as much so as Goldsmith Maid has been the past few years), record 2:31 (drawing three hundred pounds), and beating the famous Flora Temple.



Also Green Mountain Maid, record 2:34, and two miles in 5:08½, beating Flora Temple in 2:35½.

Also Gray Trouble, with record 2:41½ (drawing three hundred and ninety-five pounds).

Also Vermont, with record 2:32½, and two miles in 5:09½, and three miles in 8:02.

Also Modesty, with record 2:47.

Also Black Maria (dam of Young Columbus), with record 2:31½, and two miles in 5:12½.

He was not only a sire of trotters himself, but, like Hambletonian, (and to fully as great a degree considering his opportunities), he had that remarkable power of transmitting the reproductive quality to his descendants, as again appears from the *records of winners*.

He was sire of Parris Hambletonian, the sire of Joker, with record 2:22½, and forty-one heats in 2:30.

A daughter of his, coupled with American, produced Nelly Holcomb, with record of 2:28.

Flying Banner, his grandson, sired Fanny, with record of 2:29.

He also sired the grandam of John Stewart; his record 2:30.

A daughter of his, Black Maria (record 2:31½), coupled with Columbus, produced Young Columbus, and he sired—

Sea Foam.....	2:22½	Myron Perry.....	2:24½
Comodore Vanderbilt.....	2:25	Harry Harley.....	2:25¾
Phil Sheridan.....	2:28¼		

An in-bred granddaughter of his, coupled with Vermont Hero, produced General Knox, which crosses come to light again in the splendid performances of

Lady Maud.....	2:18¼	Camors.....	2:19¾
Vermont Hero.....	2:20½	Gilbraith Knox.....	2:26¾
Plato....	2:27		

A daughter of his, coupled with the McNitt horse, produced the Morse horse, sire of Norman; Norman's pedigree being reinforced again by the Messenger blood through Bishop's Hambletonian, the sire of his grandam, comes to light again in the magnificent records of Lulu, 2:14½, and May Queen, 2:20.

These items form a valuable fragment of horse history.

In no respect has the influence of this Vermont family of Messengers more force in the present day than in the matter of gait of

the trotters thus descended. It is not the Adballah gait. It has not the elastic and springy tread of the Abdallah. They pick up the hind feet squarely, folding up the members more completely than in the Abdallah, and display more muscular action and vigor. The grey gelding Phil Sheridan by Creeper, a Morgan, shows just such a gait as Cuyler. His dam was a grey mare from Vermont, called a Messenger.

Cuyler is a valuable stallion, and will prove an excellent breeder, especially in crossing with the other stock of the State in which he is located. He has none of the Duroc-Messenger mould in his composition, hence he will be a valuable horse to cross with the descendants of Mambrino Chief and the Hambletonians of the Duroc-Messenger cross. In his form, and in his leverage and gait, he shows his descent from a distinct branch of the family. It is a clear type, and one that will afford an excellent opportunity for reunions of the blood of Messenger and of Hambletonian coming through different channels. It is wholly a road or trotting element. Use and employment for three generations among the hillsides and valleys of Vermont have taken all the gallop out of it. Sampson is himself and a trotter again. Cuyler is now only ten years old, but is fast rising to fame and prominence as a sire. His daughter, Lucy Cuyler, trotted over the track of Col. Richard West, in 2:28½, as a three-year-old, and Col. West stated that he regarded her equal to 2:25 on the Lexington track.

Orient made a record, as a two-year-old, of 2:38, and trotted the last half of the third heat in 1:15¾. She was sold at public sale for \$2,500, and since she left the farm she has trotted over Col. West's track a quarter in 36 seconds—a 2:24 gait. Friedland has been regarded as her equal. He sold at the same sale for \$2,150.

Cricket trotted in 2:36, in private, as a three-year-old.

Mercedes trotted in private, as a three-year-old, in 2:44½.

Argyle, as a two-year-old, soon after breaking, trotted in 2:53.

The above time figures are taken from a statement of the owners, but no one will doubt them. I will say further, on my own knowledge, that Cuyler shows a temper as even, and a brain as level and as full of force and energy, as I have ever seen in a trotting stallion. He is a horse that I greatly admire, and I predict that he will maintain his place among the good ones of the land as a successful trotting stallion.

## SONS OF CUYLER.

Among the very excellent colts by Cuyler, that have been sent out, the following may be named as those which will be watched with especial interest:

FRIEDLAND.—Bay colt, foaled 1875.

First dam Artless, by Hambletonian.

Second dam Dolly Mills (dam of Walkill Chief) by Seely's American Star.

Third dam Jennie Lewis, by Young Messenger, son of the Coburn Horse by Bush Messenger, son of imported Messenger.

ARGYLE.—Bay colt, foaled 1875.

Dam Lady Abdallah, (dam of Granville, record 2:26, and Kate Patchen, 2:35 as five-year-old) by Alexander's Abdallah.

GLADSTONE.—Bay colt, foaled 1874.

First dam Mary Mambrino, by Mambrino Patchen.

Second dam Bell Wagner, by Embry's Wagner.

Third dam Lady Belle, by Bellfounder Jr.

Fourth dam Multiflora, by Monmouth Eclipse, thoroughbred.

KINLOCK.—Bay colt, foaled 1874.

First dam Lady Geraldine, by Innis' Brignolia, son of Brignolia by Mambrino Chief.

Second dam by Sebastopol.

Third dam by Todhunter's Sir Wallace, son of Sir Alfred.

Fourth dam by Saxe Weimar.

MARMION.—Chestnut colt, foaled 1875.

First dam Bridget, by George M. Patchen.

Second dam by Henry May Day.

CAPT. TAYLOR.—Brown colt, foaled 1875.

First dam Birdie Guy, by Brigadier, son of Brignolia.

Second dam by Norman Temple, son of Norman.

STANLEY.—A full brother to Argyle, foaled 1876.

GALILEO.—Bay colt, ankle white, foaled 1876.

First dam Belladonna, by Edward Everett.

Second dam by Seely's American Star.

Third dam by Ohio Eclipse.

Fourth dam by Post Boy.

Fifth dam by Wildair.

MARSHALL NEY.—A bay stallion, foaled 1873, and MASSENA, bay stallion, foaled 1874. Both of these colts are from Patchen Maid, a very superior mare by Mambrino Patchen, second dam Lady Eleanor, by Mambrino Chief, one of the best of his daughters.

## HAPPY MEDIUM.

This is another stallion of distinguished parentage, and has some fame of his own. He is owned by Robert Steel, Esq., of Philadelphia.

Happy Medium is a very handsome bay stallion, 15 $\frac{3}{4}$  hands high, with two white hind feet, star in the forehead, and snip on the nose. He was foaled in 1863, and bred by R. F. Galloway, Esq., of Rockland county, N. Y. His dam was the celebrated trotting mare Princess. She was by Andrus' Hambletonian, son of Judson's Hambletonian, by Bishop's Hambletonian.

Princess trotted in California on consecutive days, two ten-mile races, both to wagons, winning easily an immense stake of \$35,000, in 29:10 $\frac{1}{4}$  and 29:16 $\frac{1}{4}$ . She subsequently beat the famous queen of the turf, Flora Temple, in a two-mile heat race, in 5:02.

Happy Medium, when six years old, and with but eight days' training, trotted at Paterson, New Jersey, against Guy Miller and Honesty. In the first heat Honesty was distanced in 2:34 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and in the second heat Guy Miller was left behind the flag in 2:32 $\frac{1}{2}$ . This was Happy Medium's last appearance on the turf. Since then he has been used altogether in the stud. Mr. Galloway stated that before he disposed of him, he had driven him quarters in 35 seconds, to a wagon carrying two hundred and fifty pounds.

He was purchased from Mr. Galloway in 1871, for the sum of \$25,000, and removed to his present quarters, at the Cedar Park Stock Farm. Although breeding has not been carried on to any very great extent in that vicinity, yet during the period that Happy Medium has been at the Cedar Park, he has brought in a revenue of nearly \$40,000, for service alone, independent of the mares bred belonging at the Farm, according to the statement of his owner.

At the time Happy Medium was purchased he was a young horse, and but few of his colts had made their appearance upon the turf, and was comparatively unknown, further than being the son of Hambletonian and the famous California mare, Princess.

The investment of \$25,000 in such a horse, at the time, was looked upon by a good many horsemen as being unwise. Since then, the

produce of Happy Medium have annually made their appearance on the turf, in different localities, and their performances have been so numerous and creditable, that it can not be denied by any impartial reader or thinker but that he has been a valuable and successful sire of trotters.

His public record of 2:32½, in an easy won race, as a six-year-old, was certainly a very satisfactory performance, and showed most conclusively that he had inherited all the trotting instinct of his famous sire and dam; while the performances of his colts are a most sure guarantee that he perpetuates the same in his get. The following is a list of the produce of Happy Medium, which is but a partial one, with a brief account of their performances, both private and public, as taken from the statement of his owner:

Milton Medium, Fleetwood, Baron Luff, Sans Souci, Happy Thought, Alice Medium, Frank Ellis, Dixon, Odd Stocking, Happy Medium Jr., Jennie, Minnie Medium, Harry Ward, Blaze Medium, Rose Medium, Blanche Medium, the Gillender Mare, Brigadier, Grand Duke Alexis, Princess Medium, May Medium, Frank Medium, Ellwood Medium, Helen Medium, Maud Medium, Dexter Medium, Monroe Medium, Ethel Medium, and many others.

This is a list of trotters—every one of them.

Milton Medium, in 1876, when five years old, won a race at Suffolk Park, Philadelphia, in 2:37, 2:36, and 2:37. Two days subsequently he trotted, over the same course, a third heat in 2:31. Afterward he was purchased for stud purposes by J. S. Mendenthal, Esq., of Clarion county, Pennsylvania, for \$5,000. He is now in California, and Happy Medium can safely rest his reputation with the breeders of the Pacific Slope upon two such representatives as Milton Medium and Brigadier.

Brigadier, as a green four-year-old, last year won his maiden race in 2:33½, 2:33½, and 2:39. Three days subsequently he won the race at Chico, Cal., for four-year-olds, in 2:40, 2:33½, and 2:30. Afterward he won three more races, all of his engagements, only losing a single heat in the five events.

Happy Thought is well known all over the country. As a three-year-old, in 1875, he won the Charter Oak Colt stakes, at Hartford, in 2:43 and 2:40, with commanding ease. As a four-year-old he did not appear, but last season, as a five-year-old, he made a record of 2:31. He has shown his owner, Mr. Morgan, of Stonington, Conn., remarkably fast time in repeated trials.

Baron Luff is one of the oldest of Happy Medium's sons. Last season he made a record at Suffolk Park of 2:27, in the easiest possible manner, and in a race at Point Breeze won the fourth and sixth heats of a hotly contested race in 2:27½ and 2:30½. At Woodbury Park, N. J., over a half-mile track, he won a six-heat race, taking the concluding heats in 2:31½, 2:31, and 2:32. He is now a prominent stallion.

Fleetwood, a bay stallion, owned by James McKee, Esq., of Paterson, N. J., in 1876, won five out of seven races. At Point Breeze Park, Philadelphia, he got a record of 2:29 in a third heat.

Rose Medium has a record of 2:35, which, however, is no measure of her speed. Starting in June of last year she trotted before the end of the season one hundred and ten heats in twenty-seven races, winning sixteen of the latter. At Point Breeze Park she was at Penelope's throat-latch in the third heat of a race, trotted in 2:29.

Sans Souci started out green last season and won seven races, making a record of 2:33.

Alice Medium, full sister to Sans Souci, is considered by Mr. Phillips to be the most promising Medium he ever handled—and he has control of Baron Luff and Sans Souci.

The brown stallion Dixon, before he became lame by an injury to one of his feet, was thought by horsemen to be one of the fastest colts of his age in the United States. His four-year-old record was 2:36¾. At the same age he trotted a trial in 2:27.

The bay stallion Frank Ellis, bred and owned by Mr. Galloway, obtained a four-year-old record of 2:37. In 1876, in his five-year-old form, he reduced his record to 2:33 over a half-mile track at Ambler, where he distanced a strong field of horses.

Grand Duke Alexis was last season thought by such an astute driver as Charles Green, sufficiently fast to enter the Grand Circuit, but went amiss in his training, and did not appear. He has been driven a trial mile by Carl Burr in 2:25.

Odd Stocking has a four-year-old record of 2:45. She was sold at that age for a large price, under a guarantee to show 2:30.

Blaze Medium has a three-year-old record of 2:41, and a four-year-old record of 2:40.

Minnie Medium has a four-year-old record of 2:40.

Harry Ward has a four-year-old record of 2:42.

Jennie Medium has a five-year-old record of 2:40.

Happy Medium Jr. has a four-year-old record of 2:44½.

Ellwood Medium has a three-year-old record of 2:41 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Helen Medium has a four-year-old record of 2:40.

Ethel Medium, owned at Altoona, Pa., has already shown this season a half mile in 1:17 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Maud Medium, last season, trotted a half mile at Point Breeze, to wagon, in 1:19.

May Medium has this season, with two weeks' handling, shown a mile in 2:38.

Princess Medium trotted a mile this spring, the second one she was given, in 2:40.

Leon Medium has shown very fast time, and is valued highly.

I am obliged to say of this stallion, and generally of his descendants, that I do not like their feet. They do not have foot enough; that is, it is deficient in size and depth, but it must be admitted by all that they know how to handle them. The feet of Princess were quite faulty, and she was often lame.

One thing is clearly apparent in this horse and in all of his family, and the same is seen in Cuyler:—the Messenger blood which gives them their character as trotters was the pure, unmixed trotting blood of that great sire. It has no galloping tendencies. If Happy Medium could go as fast as a cannon ball he would want to go at a trot, and when he trots he goes as though he really had about that degree of speed in view. He has the perfect temper and spirit of a trotting sire. He has not the appearance of being as large as he really measures. He appears to be smaller than Cuyler. He is short in his leverage; has a thigh 22 inches, and is only 39 inches from hip to hock; but he is put up close and strong, and no fault can be found with any part of his form or frame work. His produce strongly resemble him in all his essential points. The one noticeable fact about them is, that they all trot—mostly inside of 2:45, and many inside of 2:35, while some have a record in 2:30, but thus far none in 2:25. If they are to be called the MEDIUM family, then those in advance of them must get off quick, and keep it up at a speedy rate.

#### HIS SONS.

BARON LUFF.

DIXON.

MILTON MEDIUM.

HAPPY THOUGHT.

FRANK ELLIS.

BRIGADIER.

All included in the foregoing list, and are valuable young stallions.

## DUKE OF BRUNSWICK.

This is a bay stallion, foaled 1864. He was bred by Harrison Durkee, Esq., of New York, and was by Hambletonian, dam Madam Loomer, by Warrior, son of Young Messenger, by Winthrop Messenger, by imported Messenger.

He is owned by Geo. M. Jewett, Esq., of Zanesville, Ohio. He is fifteen hands two inches high, and has a star in his forehead. He is a very evenly proportioned horse, legs somewhat round but very clean and well muscled. While he was owned by Mr. Durkee, he was used and driven as a road horse by that gentleman. Soon after going into the hands of Mr. Jewett, and while he was in service as a stallion at the owner's farm, Fair Oaks, he was taken to the Ohio State Fair, and exhibited in the class of stallions. Never having been trotted in races, he showed some unsteadiness in company, but won the second, fourth and fifth heats in 2:40½, 2:40, and 2:40¼, showing good bursts of speed, and, considering his condition, making a very creditable race.

Madam Loomer was another of these veteran road mares that came of Messenger blood, well seasoned by long use for road purposes. What Harris' Hambletonian did for Vermont, Winthrop Messenger did for the State of Maine and his part of New England. The Messengers from the State of Maine have been famous for over half a century. Madam Loomer was herself a very superior mare, and produced Dick Loomer, a trotter that can make it in 2:25. She also produced a young stallion by Blackwood, called Black Prince, which has been sold at a good price to Mr. John Young, of Salt Lake City, Utah. Her blood, coming, as it does, so directly from that great son of Messenger, must be regarded as one of the very choicest of strains to cross with the blood of Hambletonian. Her family are distinguished as having embraced many noted trotters.

Directly descended from this family is Belle Strickland, 2:26, by the Merrow horse, a grandson of Winthrop Messenger, through Witherell, his son, and Belle's dam was also by Witherell. This same son Witherell produced Belle of Portland, 2:26. State of Maine, another son, produced dam of Mambrino Kate, 2:24½, and Logan's Messenger, sire of Crown Prince, 2:25. The famous Fanny Pullen, dam of Trustee, the twenty-mile trotter, was a daughter of Winthrop Messenger. She also produced the stallion Bridge's Emperor, sire of the dam of Aristos. The real excellence of the blood of Messenger coming through this and the other New England branches, is due to the



fact that it was trotting blood—it had no galloping traits or instincts—it produced only trotters and roadsters. The section of the country whence it came did not indulge in racing, and the horse was from the earliest period inured to the habits of a roadster.

Duke of Brunswick has not been in the stud long enough yet to give proof of his capacity or quality as a sire, but the results of his career will be looked to with great confidence.

He presents a combination of trotting blood which is not only tempting to the breeder of trotters, but one that carries with it high assurances of successful results.

#### GUY MILLER.

This horse was foaled in 1856, and was taken to California in 1860, and died soon after that time. He was a trotter of some merit; a large horse; his dam was by Nanny's Bolivar. He produced two sons that have in turn produced trotters in the 2:30 list—Delmonico, and Whipple's Hambletonian. The dam of the former was by Hambletonian, and his grandam by imported Bellfounder. He has produced John Murphy Jr., five years old, with a record of 2:25, and three heats in 2:30 or better.

It must be conceded that this is one instance in which a son of Hambletonian has been successful with Bellfounder mares. Delmonico is strongly in-bred in that blood. His other son, Whipple's Hambletonian, was foaled in 1860, in California, and his dam is given as Martha Washington. The only one of that name in the *Trotting Register* that could have been his dam, was by Black Bashaw, son of Young Bashaw. This horse has been quite a successful stallion. He has six performers to his credit in the 2:30 list, namely: Ajax, record of 2:29, two heats; Alameda Maid, 2:27½, four heats; Lady Blanchard, 2:26¼, four heats; Lou Whipple, 2:26¾, eight heats; Rustic, 2:30; and Westfield, 2:26½, and two heats.

#### MIDDLETOWN.

This horse was foaled in 1860. His early owner was D. B. Irwin, of Middletown, New York, and he is now owned in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. His pedigree is not authenticated. It was originally entered in the *Trotting Register* as dam by American Eclipse, grandam by Engineer, but the pedigree thus given has no support. His dam was a grey mare that was noted as being a real good one, but the true pedigree is unknown. Middletown is doubtless a good horse, and it is a matter of regret that the blood of his dam can not

be shown. He is described as a compact and handsome horse, and has been a favorite wherever he has been kept. He is sire of Lady Blessington, record of 2:30, and of Music 2:21½, with twenty-three heats in 2:30 or better—all I believe made in one season, soon after which she was purchased by Robert Bonner, Esq. She is an elegant chestnut mare, one of the finest and most beautiful animals in the collection owned by Mr. Bonner, which is unequalled by any that has ever been seen in the possession of one person in this country.

Middletown is a valuable stallion.

#### LOGAN.

This is a dark bay stallion, foaled 1854, bred by Geo. W. Connor, Orange county, New York, and taken to Muscatine, Iowa, thence bought by David A. Gage, and brought to Chicago. He is owned now in Indiana. His dam was by Ohio Eclipse, grandam by Post Boy, the brother to Shakespeare, son of Duroc, having one or two Duroc-Messenger crosses. He was a good stallion, and had he been kept in good hands and received a proper class of mares, he would have been successful. But the man having him in charge professed to make trotters from thoroughbreds, and did not value such blood as Logan possessed. Notwithstanding this, before he went into those hands he produced Skinkle's Hambletonian with a record of 2:28¾, and Tramp, the sire of Trampoline, 2:25, and ten heats in 2:30 or better.

He showed much of the form of Hambletonian, and with good mares would have left trotters. He has generally been regarded as a failure.

#### SENECA CHIEF.

This horse was foaled 1863, dam Lady Jordan, by Latourettes Beil-founder; 2d dam by Walden Messenger. He is owned by Ira H. Colman, Sheldrake, Seneca county, New York. He is undoubtedly an excellent stallion, and is sire of some valuable animals. He is sire of Schuyler, five years old, with record of 2:26, and ten heats in 2:30 or better.

#### WILLIE SCHEPPER.

This is a bay stallion, foaled 1863. His dam was Nelly, by a son of Vermont Blackhawk, grandam said to be by Busiris, a thoroughbred. The mare Nelly was a very superior road mare, and was generally known as the Turnbull mare, and was owned by Wm. Turnbull, of New York, the breeder of Willie Schepper.

This stallion is owned by Gen. Jas. W. Singleton, of Quincy, Ill., one of the most thorough gentlemen in America, and occupying a very prominent position, both in political circles and in every branch of business life.

He has the highest appreciation of good horses, and has been the owner of many noted animals, and as early as 1856 took the first premium in Illinois, on his stallion Silverheels by Vermont Blackhawk.

In his son of Hambletonian he has an excellent stallion, a horse of fine form and handsome leverage, and one that stamps his own quality on his produce. His conformation is such as insures an even and steady gait, being rather long behind, and with front legs fashioned after the most exact proportion. On inspecting him, I could say at once what his gait was, and soon had an opportunity of verifying my opinion, not in his own motion, but in that of two of his colts, a three-year-old and a two-year-old, and I will say to the Western breeders, that they have no great occasion to go to the East for a good son of Hambletonian.

He is kept like many others, by gentlemen situated as Gen. Singleton is, mainly as a private stallion, and such horses never earn the reputation they would achieve if in hands that would secure a promiscuous patronage. The best collection of mares in the country will not secure as high a reputation to a stallion as the average business of one good locality maintained for a term of several years.

Edward Everett, Almont, Duke of Brunswick, Cuyler, Willie Schepper, and many other stallions similarly owned, will not achieve the reputation that would follow them in the hands of owners who depended on promiscuous patronage for support and reputation.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### ABDALLAHS.

I PROPOSE in this chapter to speak of several branches of our trotting families descended from Abdallah, and not embraced in the family of Hambletonian.

Abdallah left other sons and many daughters, and through his daughters, especially, several other families have come into distinctive prominence. One of his daughters became the dam of Woodward's Ethan Allen and Daniel Lambert, two stallions that will be noticed in the chapter on Justin Morgan and his descendants; another daughter became the dam of Taggart's Abdallah, to be noticed in the same chapter; another daughter became the dam of Dixon's Ethan Allen, also to be noticed in the same chapter; another daughter became the dam, and still another the grandam of the stallion Jupiter Abdallah, to be noticed further in this chapter.

### HIS SONS.

Abdallah left one son known in later years as Spaulding's Abdallah. He was foaled sometime about the year 1840; his dam was by Star Gazer, son of Engineer. He was bred in the vicinity of the city of New York, and was sold at an early day to Dr. Spaulding, of Greenupsburg, Ky., and was owned for several years by Mr. D. White, of Yates City, Ill. He died in the possession of Mr. White about the year 1875, and it was then claimed that he was forty years old. He was a chestnut, and his stock are mostly chestnuts and yellow bays, and nearly every one had a list or stripe along the back, from the withers to the tail. He was sire of John M. Botts that attained some reputation as a trotter.

Abdallah also left Vansiclen's Abdallah, a bay horse, foaled about 1844; his dam was by Hickory, and his grandam by Mambrino, the dam of Hickory being also by Mambrino. If there was any merit in

the concentrated blood of Mambrino and Messenger, this horse had enough to constitute him a successful stallion, but we only hear of him occasionally in the pedigree of some other animals.

The most distinguished son of Abdallah, aside from Hambletonian, was Roe's Abdallah Chief. He was a chestnut, and was foaled in 1848; his dam was by Phillips, and his grandam by Decatur; Phillips was by Duroc, dam by Messenger, and Decatur was by Henry, dam by American Eclipse—hence this horse had two of the Duroc-Messenger crosses on his dam's side. He was bred by Jonathan S. Wood, of Orange county, New York, and sold to Seely C. Roe, and in the fall of 1855 he was sold to E. N. Wilcox and several other gentlemen at Detroit, Mich. He lived only part of the next season, and did not leave above eight foals in the West. He had a habit of springing to his feet at one bound, when lying on the ground, and in the act of doing this he broke his thigh, like the great stallion Medoc, and thus was lost to his owners at the age of eight years.

He was a very popular horse, and when the gentlemen from Detroit went to Orange county to buy a stallion, they were offered Hambletonian at the same price, as is stated, but preferred Abdallah Chief. He had no Bellfounder blood, but he had two Duroc crosses. While in Orange county he left several daughters, which have since been prized as the dams of distinguished stallions. Messenger Duroc, Lysander and Allen C. Patchen came from daughters of Abdallah Chief.

While at Detroit he produced Abdallah Roebuck and Erie Abdallah; and Abdallah Roebuck, from the dam of Erie Abdallah, afterward produced Abd-el-Kader. These are three very excellent stallions, and their pedigrees embrace a series of the choicest strains of the blood of Messenger anywhere to be found in this country.

Abdallah Roebuck was owned by Gen. Wilcox, and was by him used and ridden when in command of the defenses of Washington, during the late civil war.

Erie Abdallah is owned at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, and has been a good trotter, and a successful stallion. I believe the premium stallion of Ohio for 1877 was a son of Erie Abdallah.

The following letter addressed to me several years ago, by the then owner of Erie, making all allowance for the partiality and enthusiasm of an owner, will show in fair degree the merits of Erie Abdallah:

Being the owner of the stallion Erie Abdallah, by Roe's Abdallah Chief dam, the dam of Abd-el-Kader, I address you this note.

My horse is proving to be a very superior stock horse, and was also very successful as a trotter the seasons of 1867, '68 and '69 when I bought him and withdrew him from the track.

I will give you a little account of his campaigns: He was brought to Ohio in the spring of 1867, and was bred to seventy-two mares, and handled through the season and then trotted eight races, winning them all; trotting his heats from 39 to 44. The next season was bred to eighty-seven mares, and trotted several 3 in 5 races, two 2-mile-and-repeat races to wagon, and trotted one heat in 5:18. The same season was taken from his owner's stable in Lorain Co., to Mt. Vernon, Knox Co., a distance of eighty miles, left his owner's stable on Monday morning, roaded to Mt. Vernon, arrived there on Tuesday evening, trotted a 3 in 5 race on Wednesday, also one on Thursday, and on Friday a ten mile dash which he won in 31 minutes and 9 seconds; was timed the last mile and trotted it in 2 minutes and 40 seconds over a heavy half mile track. The season of 1869 he was bred to ninety-six mares, and trotted through the fall, and trotted in 2:34; since that time he has been kept expressly for a stock horse.

I showed him at the Northern Ohio Fair of 1870, as a stallion with five of his get—all 2-year-olds—and received the prize, also 2d prize as a stallion for general utility. In 1871 I showed him with five 3-year-olds and a pair of matched geldings from Michigan, 6 years old, and got the prize again. The colts all got first premiums in their classes. The pair got the first premium as matched roadsters, and first and second premium as single roadsters. Erie got the second premium as a roadster stallion. The last season I showed him again with five of his 2 and 3-year-olds, all in harness, and received the prize. I have shown him against three of the sons of Hambletonian—one a horse owned at Goshen, Orange Co., N. Y., one at Dunkirk, N. Y., and Star Hambletonian of Elyria, Ohio—and several of the best thoroughbreds and roadsters we have in Ohio. I have shown him seven times with his colts, and never has he left a show ring without the ribbons.

I think you will believe I have a horse of great endurance as well as a superior stock horse.

The following description and pedigree will show the rich breeding of these three stallions:

**ABD-EL-KADER**, by Abdallah Roebuck, he by Abdallah Chief, he by Abdallah, he by Mambrino, and he by imported Messenger.

His dam (the Watson mare by Hickory) came from very noted sources, and was herself distinguished as a trotter and a mare of great beauty.

Her sire, Hickory, was a runner and a trotter, and distinguished at both gaits. He was by old Hickory; 1st dam by Mambrino, and 2d dam by imported Highlander.

Old Hickory was by imported Whip, and his dam was Dido by imported Dare Devil. He was a successful race-horse, and the sire of race-horses.

Abd-el-Kader's second dam was an Anglo-Canadian mare, bred in the county of Essex, Ontario.

Dam of Abdallah Roebuck was Lady Washington, by Washington, by Napoleon, by Young Mambrino, by Chancellor, by Mambrino.

Dam of Chancellor by imported Messenger.

Dam of Napoleon by American Commander, by Commander, by imported Messenger.

Dam of Young Mambrino by Duroc.

Dam of American Commander by imported Light Infantry, and he by the celebrated English Eclipse, and his second dam by Childers.

Dam of Abdallah Chief by Philips, he by Duroc, his dam by Messenger, his 2d dam by Saltram. Second dam of Abdallah Chief by Decatur, he by Sir Henry, son of Sir Archy, dam by imported Diomed, Decatur's dam by American Eclipse.

Abd-el-Kader embraces many lines of the blood of imported Messenger, all coming through the best sources, and crossed with strains of the blood of English Eclipse, Childers, imported Light Infantry, imported Diomed, Sir Archy, Duroc, Henry, American Eclipse, Decatur and Saltram—names most distinguished in English and American Turf history. No more highly or better bred trotting stallion can be found anywhere. He was foaled in 1861, is a blood bay, with a little white on each left foot; is full 16 hands high, and as a horse of faultless symmetry, high breeding and unrivaled beauty, can be shown in any company. He is untrained, but shows superior trotting action, breeds large, and almost uniformly bays, closely resembling himself in marks and general form. All his colts are very blood-like in appearance, and their trotting action is very superior. Like himself, they are all perfectly kind and docile, even when they have come from vicious and untamable mares.

He is now doing service at Peru, Indiana, and has one son that is no discredit to him as a sire. This son is now three years old and the description of the sire will apply to the son, except that the latter has no white and is a darker but very rich bay.

The following is his pedigree:

EURIPIDES.—Bay stallion, foaled 1875 by Abd-el-Kader; first dam Abby Bacchante, by Lakeland Abdallah; second dam Mambrino Bacchante, by Mambrino Chief; third dam Grey Bacchante, by Downing's Bay Messenger; fourth dam by Whip Comet; fifth dam by Grey Messenger, he by Dove, by Saratoga, by imported Messenger. The pedigree of Grey Messenger in full, is given in the Chapter on Hambletonian.

This colt, I may say, is regarded by those who have seen him as worthy of his high breeding. As he and his sire are owned by myself, I only include this reference to them from the feeling that they have too much merit individually and as descendants of Abdallah Chief to pass unnoticed.

## HIS DAUGHTERS.

The branch of the family of Abdallah represented by Jupiter Abdallah, although in the male line from another family, is deserving of especial notice.

Jupiter Abdallah was by Jupiter, and he by Long Island Blackhawk, son of Andrew Jackson, a member of the Bashaw family, which will be considered in Chapter XIX. Jupiter was strong in the blood of Messenger. His dam was Gipsy by Almack, and he was a son of Mambrino. In him the families of Mambrino and Young Bashaw were united, and in Jupiter Abdallah the blood of Abdallah was introduced in a double current.

The dam of Jupiter Abdallah was by Abdallah, and his grandam was his daughter also. So highly has the blood of Abdallah been prized, that incestuous crosses have been tolerated in that strain more than in any other known to our American horse breeders. Jupiter Abdallah was foaled in 1855. He is the sire of Result, winner of the 2:28 purse, for stallions, at Fleetwood, Oct. 16, 1877, losing the first heat by a head only, in 2:24½, and taking the last three heats at his ease in 2:26, 2:27, and 2:27, and, in the opinion of many competent judges, was able to have trotted in 2:20. He was sire also of Roden's Prince, record 2:27. Prince showed a private trial over the Fashion course in 2:23 in harness, and a repeat the same day to wagon in 2:25. He is sire also of Tom Moore, record 2:28.

Lady Salisbury, a daughter of Abdallah, left a son of some distinction. She was foaled in 1840. Her son Trojan was by Flying Cloud, a son of Vermont Blackhawk, whose dam was by Andrew Jackson. This was one of several instances where the blood of Abdallah and that of the Morgan families was united and resulted in a superior trotting sire.

This Trojan went into the State of Missouri and has been lost or is dead, but he has left valuable stock, and the inquiries that have been made for the missing Trojan much remind us of the wanderings of the long lost Ulysses. We are not told whether his Penelope remained as steadfast during his long absence as did that of the King of Ithaca. It may yet transpire that some winning Calypso has ensnared the wanderer, and if he has improved the time and opportunity, we may yet have some interesting returns from this wayward Trojan. Before he disappeared, he produced Ella Wright, that now has a record of 2:24¾, and nine heats in 2:30 or better.

The following sketch, descriptive of Tom Moore and Flatbush



Abdallah, has been prepared at my request by an Illinois gentleman, whose accuracy and faithfulness in describing the great stallions, entitle him to a place among the numerous and valuable contributors to the turf journals. I adopt his sketches as my own.

"Tom Moore, bred by the late Z. B. Van Wyck, Esq., of Flatbush, Long Island, and now owned by his son, Mr. Frank Van Wyck, was by Jupiter Abdallah, and foaled Oct. 15, 1868. First dam Nellie Moore, a famous road mare, by Westchester, a son of Long Island Blackhawk; second dam by Bellbrino, son of imp. Bellfounder; third dam by Ahmack, by Mambrino, son of Messenger.

"Jupiter Abdallah was by Jupiter, son of Long Island Blackhawk, while his dam and grandam were by Abdallah, son of Mambrino, by Messenger. Thus it will be seen that Tom Moore is strong in the blood of Messenger, Bellfounder and Long Island Blackhawk. His color is solid mahogany bay, with large star and white ankles behind; his coat is exceedingly fine, with a gloss resembling satin; his mane very good, and his tail equal to any we have ever seen; his legs are black well up to his body, clean and free from all defects, with broad knees and hocks, and plenty of bone and muscle, while his feet are of faultless shape and quality. His height is 15 hands and 3 inches, his forearm 21 inches, and front cannon-bone 11 inches; from centre of hip to point of hock 39 inches; from stifle to point of hock  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and from point of hock to centre of ankle 17 inches. The triangle from centre of hip to root of tail is 20 inches, thence to stifle 27 inches, thence to centre of hip 18 inches; his back is short, with strong muscular loin and stifles, and quarters reaching far down into strong smooth hocks. His ear is of medium size, but fine and well shaped; his neck long and clean with slight arch; his nostrils thin, with large clean throttle and windpipe; his eye large and clear, showing a little white, indicative of great positiveness of character, at the same time bearing an expression of countenance indicating a decided preference for friendly relations. He has a record of 2:28, and we are informed that he has trotted a half mile in 1:09. He has never been in stud service till the present season, 1878, though he has got two or three colts previously, one of which we have seen, and regard very promising. Combining, as he does, the Messenger, Bellfounder and Long Island Blackhawk blood, he will undoubtedly prove a valuable horse for either stud or track purposes.

"Since the first time the writer saw this horse, he has never visited New York without a visit also to the box of Tom Moore, at Flat-

bush. At each visit, and they have been several, this horse grows in his estimation. For fine, smooth finish, strength of bone and muscles, fineness of coat, elegance of carriage, and rapidity of gait, we have never seen a stallion more to be admired than this same Tom Moore.

"Flatbush Abdallah, also bred by the late Z. B. Van Wyck, Esq., and still owned at the Van Wyck homestead, was by Jupiter Abdallah, and foaled Feb. 28, 1870. First dam Abdallah Maid, by Flying Cloud, son of Vermont Blackhawk; second dam by Vansiclen's Abdallah, by old Abdallah; third dam by Hickory; fourth by Mambrino, son of Messenger. His color is dark bay, bordering on brown, with blaze in forehead, and white on one foot. His height is 16 hands and 3 inches, and weight about 1,300 lbs.; his forearm is 22 inches, and front cannon-bone 12 inches; from centre of hip to point of hock 42 inches; from stifle to point of hock  $25\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and from point of hock to centre of ankle  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches. He has an abundance of bone, muscle and strength most admirably distributed; his back is short, with loins well arched and strongly supported, and at this point we have never seen his superior. He is strong in the quarters, stifles and thighs, with abundance of muscle well laid on. His knees and hocks are broad, strong and free from defects, which also applies to his entire limbs; his feet are unsurpassed. The only part of the horse we do not like, is his rather large and coarse Abdallah head. His eye is good, very good, and his temper amiable; his chest is deep, with plenty of heart room.

"When three years old he trotted a full mile in 2:50, and being large he was not driven for speed till 1877. In August of that year he showed a mile in 2:38, and a half mile in 1:17. We have seen several colts of his get, every one of which show remarkable trotting action. He is a most wonderful horse, and we believe bears a stronger resemblance to old Abdallah than any horse we know. That he will be an impressive sire his few colts fully demonstrate.

"Belle of Kings, a beautiful bay mare, full sister to Tom Moore, has shown trials in 2:29. Abbie Moore also by Jupiter Abdallah, first dam by Peacemaker, second dam the dam of Tom Moore, is a filly of unusual promise."

There can be no doubt but this family of stallions, so strong in the blood of Abdallah and Messenger, would be successful with the Harry Clay mares and those by Messenger Duroc, Almont, Thorn-dale, and the descendants of Mambrino Chief generally. The Duroc-Messenger strains and conformation are the needful elements required in their composition.

The Abdallah blood is a truly great one, but the history of our trotting turf has shown so much success resulting from the addition of both the Bellfounder and the Duroc-Messenger strains, that we are not without abundant light for our guidance in the selection of a rich field for so much of the concentrated blood of the king of trotting stallions.

From such sires as Jupiter Abdallah, Flatbush Abdallah and Tom Moore, and mares of the Harry Clay, Hambletonian or Mambrino Chief families, we should gather yet many Bodines, St. Juliens, Lady Thorns, Allie Wests, and Thorndales, kings and princes of the trotting turf.

I may in this connection be excused for again referring to my colt Euripides. It will be seen that he is a Duroc-Messenger of the strongest type. He has probably four Duroc crosses. He has three crosses of Abdallah, and more crosses of Messenger than almost any stallion in the land; but these crosses are interwoven so completely and the changes from one type to another made so gradually, that he affords one of the finest illustrations anywhere to be found, of the effect of frequently, yet thus by gradual approaches, crossing the Duroc and the Messenger bloods. He receives from his dam two crosses of Bellfounder, but in a remote form and coming through Lakeland Abdallah, a strong Abdallah composition, yet his length from hip to hock already surpasses any member of his family, his sire or dam. He is now over 40 inches in that line, and will probably reach the full measure of 41 inches. He will be full sixteen hands high, but his hock has the appearance of being nearer to the ground than any I have ever seen in a horse of equal size. His hock, moreover, has the best support and extends downward so far, and he shows a rear cannon-bone so short, as to attract the observation of any one with a practiced eye. His composition, so thoroughly yet so gradually inwrought with the elements of Duroc and Messenger, and with what Bellfounder came to him through Lakeland Abdallah, renders him one of the most symmetrical and highly formed young stallions I have ever seen. Such is the advanced stage in breeding yet open to the American breeder from the opportunities afforded in the proper union of the blood of our great trotting families of the present day.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### THE CHAMPIONS.

IN this family we have elements of blood for trotting purposes equaled perhaps only by two or three lines from imported Messenger. While Harris' Hambletonian and Judson's came from Bishop's Hambletonian, and Witherell, Warrior and State of Maine came from Winthrop Messenger, Mambrino gave us Abdallah and Almack, both bred by Mr. John Tredwell, and from his two matched road mares, Amazonia and Sophonisba. This latter mare was by a grandson of imported Baronet. She produced Almack in 1823, the same year that her mate produced Abdallah. Almack has not left the reputation of being a great trotting sire, yet if he had not lived in the days of Abdallah he might have been so accounted. He gave us, as stated in the preceding chapter, Gipsy, the dam of Jupiter.

### GRINNELL'S CHAMPION.

In 1843, Champion, the son of Almack, a chestnut horse, was foaled on Long Island. His dam was Spirit by Engineer, and his grandam was by American Eclipse. Such is the pedigree as given in the *Trotting Register*, but it is not stated what Engineer was the sire of Champion's dam. If it was Engineer, son of Messenger, it will occur to the reader that he must have been a pretty old horse to have been mated with a daughter of American Eclipse. But if it was Engineer second, son of first Engineer, it would better comport with the dates and the locality. The turf journals have not given much light as to the early history of this family, but the owner of the first Champion, Mr. William R. Grinnell, is still living in the central part of the State of New York, on or near Cayuga Lake. Mr. Grinnell bought Champion when he was three years old, and he has ever since been called Grinnell's Champion.

A correspondent of *Wallace's Monthly*, has given the public a

description and the early history of this horse, in a letter to that journal, from which I extract the following:

He was a golden chestnut, about 16 hands, with a perfect diamond on his nose, and two white socks behind. In his general make-up he partook much of the thoroughbred appearance; the lightness of his head and neck, his wiry leg and elastic movement, his glossy coat, and waveless mane and tail, shaded from a darker hue to a bright tint on the edge; in all, a perfect type of the high-bred runner. He was exhibited at the State Fair, at Auburn, New York, in 1848. I can never forget, though quite young, this eventful show, as he assumed that position among his cotemporaries that bade defiance to the artist. He seemed to realize the expression of his figure upon the multitude, that he was the great object of admiration, and that all were longing to share in the delight of a look at him. He was by Almack, by Mambrino, son of imported Messenger.

Neighbor Grinnell tells a humorous story of the manner in which he happened to purchase this colt. While visiting his uncle, Moses H. Grinnell, in the city, he was invited one beautiful morning, by a friend in Brooklyn, to take a ride behind a 2:30 horse, which he gladly accepted. After going about two miles, a fat Dutchman, with a pale, compact, bay mare and market wagon, was discovered behind, and keeping up without any apparent difficulty. G.'s friend says, "I'll lose him in a single square when we strike the Av." When the Av. was reached, John extended his horse, and up alongside and by went the Dutchman, as though he was simply in a hurry to his work. After going about three squares, the Dutchman stopped at his place of business. Mr. G. says to his friend, "John, stop," which they did, "and I'll buy that animal and take her home." "Can't sell," says the Dutchman, "Vants to keep her myself, and ven I'z in a hurry I don't vate for de boys, but vill sell her colt in de barn." The parties immediately went to the barn, and the call resulted in the purchase of the colt for \$559. This colt was led a full mile over the Fashion Course, in September previous, when two past, in the then unequalled time of 3:05 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

This colt was kept in the stud by Mr. Grinnell until 1849, when he gave him to his brother-in-law, Henry Holdredge, of New York City, who sold him in St. Louis, after which his whereabouts and what-abouts became unknown to the subscriber.

Owing to the extravagant price, \$25 to insure in those days, for this section of country, and to the irritable temper of the horse, becoming vicious and unmanageable, inflicting an injury upon one of his grooms, from which he afterward died, and crippling for life another, he was meagerly patronized, and but few descendants for the time were left to him. But in this region he laid the foundation upon which the family have become famous. He possessed the excellent power of transmitting his qualities, his shape, his color, and his striking characteristics. With but few exceptions they all wear that same diamond on the nose, and all exhibit that same nervous disposition, ready to resent abuse, but when properly understood, no family is more tractable and affectionate.

He left four entire sons, all of which became noted in the stud, viz., the Haley horse, Decker horse, Smith horse, and the Davis horse, named after their respective breeders. The first two were sold about the same time, from fifteen to eighteen years ago, to parties in Pennsylvania, the first to Crawford county, and the second one to Titusville, and there died. The Smith horse, the most promising in all respects, was injured for trotting purposes, by close confinement when young. He was sold some years ago to a man whose name I have forgotten, west of Rochester, and since died. Indeed I doubt if there be a living son or daughter to him to-day in this country.

## KING'S CHAMPION.

The last, though not the least, as it has turned out, was bred by Jesse M. Davis, of Union Springs, N. Y., in 1848, dam by Red Bird. He became distinguished both on the turf and in the stud. He was victor over Long Island, his adversary at Waterloo, in 1857, I think, in one of the hardest fought battles that I ever witnessed, there being five heats trotted, and the last the quickest.

David King, of Northville, purchased the horse for \$1,100. Hence the name of King or Davis Champion. He was used by him in the stud for several years, getting, about that time and before, the famous sire, Gooding's Champion, Sorrel Dapper (the Auburn horse), Col. Fisk, Norwood, Nellie, etc. In 1861, a Mr. Kellogg, a banker of Battle Creek, Michigan, purchased him for a road horse, consequently but few mares were turned to him. Among the few produced were Col. Barnes, Wild Bill, Night Hawk, Deception, Lady Backus, etc. In August, 1865, immediately after Mr. Bonner bought the Auburn horse, C. T. Backus, Wm. B. and C. Schobey, and myself, purchased by telegraph the old horse, and brought him, with a yearling daughter for company—afterward Lady Backus—back to the land of his nativity. C. Schobey soon became the sole owner until his death, in May, 1874.

King's Champion, as he is generally called, was foaled in 1848, or 1849. His dam was by Red Bird. This Red Bird was a son of Bishop's Hambletonian, and his dam was a famous mare by Red Bird, son of Cub, a thoroughbred.

Here the two families of Mambrino and Hambletonian unite in this King's Champion, and his success in the stud was worthy of the union of the two great lines from Messenger.

He went to Michigan, as stated, in 1861, and was returned to New York about four years thereafter. While in Michigan, King's Champion produced some very superior stock, among them the stallion Night Hawk, that has also been sire of some excellent roadsters. He also was sire of Lady Kellogg, a mare that shows the true form and way of going of the Champions to perfection. She was very strong at every point, and had as good a hind leg and thigh as can be asked in a trotter. The gait of this family, like all the other branches of the Champions, was marked, and not to be mistaken for

any other. After returning to the State of New York, King's Champion produced Nettie Burlew, G. B. Daniels, C. B. Myrtle, Buckskin, and other noted trotters.

#### CRAWFORD COUNTY CHAMPION.

This was a chestnut stallion, foaled 1851. He was by Grinnell's Champion, and his dam was a Morgan mare. He went at an early age to Crawford county, Pennsylvania, and was kept for several years. He since died in the State of New York.

His stock were not equal to the other Champions, and have not been known to turn out any trotters of distinction. It is not a certain success to unite the Morgan and the strong Messenger families, although by such union great results have been sometimes achieved.

#### WOOD'S CHAMPION.

This horse was by Grinnell's Champion, dam by Red Bird. He is a chestnut, and was foaled in 1860. He was brought to Illinois and kept for awhile in Livingston county, and afterward sold to W. J. Neely, and was called Neely's Champion. He is now owned by Jeremiah Wood, of Ottawa, Ill. He is a good looking horse, fine size, and shows good quality. His stock are good roadsters, but have not yet shown great speed.

Grinnell's Champion, the original, was sold in 1859 to Thos. T. Smith, of Independence. He left some good stock in Missouri, among others a stallion called Almack, from a mare by American Eclipse.

#### NIGHT HAWK.

This horse was by King's Champion, and was foaled about the year 1862, and has been owned by J. S. Vankirk, in Michigan. The blood of his dam was unknown, but he is a good sire, and has left some good roadsters in that locality. He is a chestnut.

He has one son also called NIGHT HAWK, foaled in 1865; dam, a mare called a Bellfounder. He is owned by Daniel B. Hibbard, Jackson, Michigan.

The two horses are yet in that State; they are producing some very elegant roadsters, mostly chestnuts, and are showing the gait or way of going which distinguishes the family. The family are as clearly marked by their gait or way of going as by their adherence to the chestnut color.

## GOODING'S CHAMPION.

King's Champion, as stated in the above extract, was sire of Gooding's Champion, now owned by T. W. and W. Gooding, Canandaigua, New York. He is a bay horse, and was foaled in 1854.

The dam of Gooding's Champion was the trotting mare Cynthia. Her pedigree is given as follows: By Bartlett's Turk, by Weddle's imported Turk; the dam of Turk by Young Diomed. Cynthia's dam was Fanny, by Scoby's Black Prince. Fanny's dam was Bett, by Rock Planter, son of Duroc. Bett's dam, Kate, a Messenger mare, from Dutchess. This pedigree may be all correct, but I know nothing of it, and can shed no light upon it. The mare Cynthia was bred by Benjamin Gould, of Cayuga county, New York, and this pedigree is given by him.

Gooding's Champion has been owned by Messrs. Gooding since 1869. He was foaled in 1854, and is described as follows: Fifteen hands three inches high, bright bay, with black legs, mane and tail. He is a horse of considerable substance, of very stylish and handsome appearance, and whose make-up will bear the keenest criticism. His legs and feet are excellent, tail and mane are heavy, but silky. He is very intelligent, perfectly kind and tractable; but, withal, he is of very active and courageous disposition, and this may have in part given rise to the belief in the mind of his first owner, that he was dangerous and uncontrollable.

It would seem that all of this family were true Messengers in the matter of temper.

The following extracts from another contribution to *Wallace's Monthly* give some insight into the history of Gooding's Champion and the character of the family:

Gooding's Champion was bred by Aylmer Utt, of Springport, Cayuga county, who regarded Champion much as people regard a tiger—a very handsome animal when in a cage. He was kept in a deserted log house till he was nearly nine years old, and during this time only got two colts, so far as known. He was only an ornament to the establishment with which he was connected, his owner not daring to put him to any practical use. This inactivity was owing to the fear of his owner and not to any viciousness of the horse; for he is perfectly kind, only very high spirited. It is very much to be regretted that he did not fall into appreciative hands at an early age, as the first nine years of his life were a great loss to the breeding community. When eleven years old, it is reported, he trotted his first and only race at Springport, getting a record of 2:36. He was sold, when nine years old, to James Stearns and D. L. Simmons, in the neighborhood. They sent him to



Canandaigua and vicinity, and kept him for breeding purposes at a charge of \$15, but they found it very unremunerative business. It was at Canandaigua that he got St. James, Castle Boy, and his other colts, that are now ten and eleven years of age. In 1865 Stearns & Simmons sold him to Joseph Call, of Watkins, and he remained in his hands at Watkins till 1869. Mr. G. G. Reed, of Canandaigua, then purchased him, selling him shortly after to the Messrs. Gooding for \$400, which is the largest sum he ever sold for.

\*   \*   \*   \*   \*   \*   \*   \*   \*   \*

Gooding's Champion possesses wonderful transmitting powers, equaled by very few stallions, and his colts inherit his nature to a remarkable degree. The prevailing color of his get is bright bay, with black points, though there are many with white hind feet. Fifteen and one-half, and fifteen and three-fourths hands is the usual height.

The amble is a natural gait to very many of his progeny, indeed there are few who strike a trot without first going into an amble. They have great powers of endurance coupled to great speed, are very intelligent, and quickly broken and trained, though not so precocious as some other families. During the past five years Champion has had many very well bred mares sent to him from all parts of the country, and has got from forty to eighty colts per annum, at a service fee of \$100.

Reference has been made in the foregoing list of the produce of King's Champion to the horse called the Auburn horse. This horse was a true representative of the Champion family, although little is known of him on the turf. He passed into the hands of Robert Bonner at an early day, and was one of those horses greatly prized by that gentleman. It is well known that he did not spend either money, time or space on any that were not in reality great ones. Owning, as he did, Dexter, Startle, Grafton, Joe Elliott, Wellesley Boy, Music, Lady Stout, and a list of the greatest and best ever known in this country, it may be asserted that a horse that could be held in estimation alongside of Dexter, was in reality a great horse. He died in 1868, but in the palmy days of Hiram Woodruff, the veteran trainer, he was regarded as one of the greatest trotters in this country. Hiram Woodruff said that he rode faster behind him than he ever rode behind any horse. He came in one evening after a ride behind Auburn, and was in an ecstasy over what he had witnessed. He set his whole place in commotion over his remarkable performance. Several others had witnessed it, and Hiram exhibited him to Mr. Bonner and a crowd of admirers, as "the best balanced big horse in America." Mr. Bonner said to him, "Now, Hiram, you rode at the rate of two minutes to the mile behind Peerless, for a quarter; do you mean to say that you rode faster behind the Auburn horse than behind

the grey mare?" He answered, "Faster than behind the grey mare? faster than I ever rode behind *any* horse."

This was before Dexter had reached his fastest time, and Hiram was of opinion that Auburn was good for 2:18. I extract the following from his *Trotting Horse of America*:

"I had a horse in my stable late last fall that I am satisfied was then as fast as Dexter; and I think it quite likely that he was a little faster. I allude to Mr. Bonner's big chestnut gelding, the Auburn horse. He certainly carried me faster than I had ever before ridden behind a trotter, and he went away from Lady Thorn with the greatest ease. The Auburn horse had just come right, and got to feeling well, after having been out of sorts for some time. His speed and resolute way of going had soon made a strong impression upon my mind; and I told my friends, Oliver Marshall and Foster, that if I could have him to trot a race I thought I could put a mark up so high that it would take a long time to wipe it out. That is my opinion, and the readers of this work have a right to know it. Yet it does not follow that the Auburn horse is equal to Dexter, though he might trot a mile in harness faster. \* \* \* There is no reason why I should not say here what I have already said to some of my friends: therefore I give it as my opinion, that when the Auburn horse is all right, I can drive him a mile in 2:18 in harness. This would win a heat from Dexter, I think, but it would not win a race; and if the Auburn horse came back much in the second or third heat, the little one would probably split the heats, and finally win the race. Of course this is all speculation, as Mr. Bonner will not trot any of his horses in a race; but having had both the horses, and having driven them on various occasions when they were both feeling fine and trotting very fast, I have formed the opinion that the Auburn horse can trot as fast in harness as Dexter himself can."

The inclination of the family to amble has been above referred to. I may state in this connection that Lady Kellogg, daughter of King's Champion, a mare that has trotted in 2:27, has raised a colt by Argonaut, that in colthood was a natural pacer—the only one of that way of going to his credit at that date, although he has had one since.

The Champions appear to be a very evenly sized family of horses—generally about  $15\frac{3}{4}$  hands, but very strong. Some of them show much coarse make-up, and are very rough about the head, but in form, color, in the general conformation, and in the manner of going at trotting speed, they are very much alike.

I have not seen so much uniformity in many other families.

The gait of the Champions is a little like the Abdallahs and a little like the Clay gait. They extend their feet backward, and trail them out in the rear, but do not go with that unbending appearance of the legs, and with that springy elasticity which marks the Abdallah gait. They make more display of vigor and energy

in motion, but lack the ease and frictionless manner of the Abdallah. They go with great display of power, and they are real trotters. They have the trotting impulse or instinct in high degree. The family has attained to great distinction on the trotting turf.

King's Champion, son of Grinnell's Champion, produced Nettie Burlew, with a record of 2:24, and four heats in 2:30 or better; George B. Daniels, 2:24, and eight heats in 2:30 or better; Charley B., Col. Barnes and Sorrel Dapper, (or Auburn horse), each with a single heat and a record of 2:28½.

Gooding's Champion has to his credit Castle Boy, 2:21, and nineteen heats in 2:30 or better; St. James, 2:23¼, and forty-two heats; York State, 2:23¼, and five heats; Chauncey M. Bedle, 2:24, and Eva, 2:25½, and eight heats in 2:30 or better.

The dam of Castle Boy was a Morgan mare of good breeding. The dam of York State was a common mare of no breeding. The dam of St. James was a very small mare, called by some a pony, but a mare of great endurance.

Matt Tanner, by Gooding's Champion, is from a Morgan mare, and has a record of 2:31¾; made in winning the last three of a race of six heats.

Belle Cleveland has a record of 2:33¼.

Geneva, from a Morgan mare, has a record of 2:42.

Zeppo, from a mare by Old Henry Clay, has shown a mile, as stated, in 2:24, but his record is 2:50½.

Montour Maid has a record of 2:35.

#### SONS OF GOODING'S CHAMPION.

Tim Gooding, bay stallion, five years old, dam Queen Anne. Queen Anne, by Fashion Clay, son of Henry Clay, second dam by King's Champion. This should be a CHAMPION.

Mambrino Champion, a bay, five years old, dam by Ericsson, by Mambrino Chief; said to be a handsome horse. Just here I may say that the Ericssons, of all the family of Mambrino Chief, resembled in gait the Champion family the most. I should commend the breeding of this last colt without seeing him.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE ROYAL GEORGES.

THIS is a family of great distinction and merit, but one whose derivation is involved in some doubt, and it is a difficult matter to present their history and composition in a satisfactory manner. They are not one of the oldest families of trotters, yet they are somewhat widely scattered, and having displayed a very creditable degree of speed, and being noted for good size and general soundness, they have many friends in all parts of the country. They originated in Canada, but have been introduced into the United States mainly from the vicinity of Buffalo, and now have representatives in all parts of the land. In color they are blacks, bays and chestnuts, in some branches mostly blacks, but in some recent families many chestnuts are appearing.

The paternity of this family traces to a black horse called TIPPPOO, foaled about the year 1817. Inasmuch as Messenger had a son named Tippoo Saib, foaled 1795, and raised and kept on Long Island and parts of New York and New Jersey, the name Tippoo is of itself suggestive of that blood, although there is nothing indicating any tracing to Tippoo Saib.

This Tippoo was foaled at or in the vicinity of Belleville, in Canada West, and the only history we have relating to him is, that a citizen of Belleville traded for a brown mare in Lewis county, New York, in the winter of 1817. The mare was in foal by a horse that stood at the time at Lowville in that part of the State of New York, and a horse that was reputed at the time to be one of great excellence. She dropped a foal in the spring, and he grew to be the black stallion Tippoo.

The current history of the period leaves little doubt that the sire of Tippoo was Ogden's Messenger, son of imported Messenger; dam Katy Fisher by imported Highflyer; grandam an imported mare and

a thoroughbred. This horse Highflyer, sire of the dam of Ogden's Messenger, was by Highflyer, a noted English stallion, and his dam was by Gimcrack, one of the most celebrated English horses—referred to in my sketch of Duroc in Chapter V.

I have called attention to the peculiarities of Duroc tracing to Gimcrack, and while the light that leads us to connect Tippoo and the Royal Georges with Ogden's Messenger is a dim and feeble ray, one of its strong internal supports is found in the conformation and way of going of the family of Royal Georges, as compared with other trotting families of Messenger and other descent.

Ogden's Messenger was bred by Mr. H. N. Cruger, of New Jersey, and was foaled in 1806. He was a grey horse, and was sold when three years old to Judge David A. Ogden. He is described as a "coarse pattern of a fine horse, with marked traits of his lineage." This is a description that would apply to all the sons of Messenger. Like all of that family he was a big-jointed, overgrown, and apparently immature young horse. They all seemed to ripen up late, and did not grow into esteem very young. As a family they only began to be valued when the stallions that produced them were old horses. It must be conceded that if they were slow to begin, they have maintained popular favor for a good while. When this horse was four years old, Judge Ogden sent him to a farm he owned on the St. Lawrence river, and after he had been there until about the year 1815 or 1816 he was taken to Lowville, in Lewis county, and made several seasons there. He was at Lowville in 1816, and the popular stallion, with little measure of doubt, from which the colt Tippoo came. Coincidence of time, place and the precise blood qualities found, and which can not readily be accounted for elsewhere or ascribed to other origin, are a class of evidences that have great weight and must often be resorted to in questions of horse lineage. The origin of Amazonia and the dam of Mambrino Chief, necessarily and rightfully rest on evidences of this character, but they carry great weight.

It must be conceded that this matter of relationship is not clearly established and can not probably ever be settled in the case now under consideration with any more certainty or satisfaction than in either of the two other cases above referred to, but the conclusion has been very generally reached and accepted among American breeders, and more generally by those in Canada, that Tippoo was a son of Ogden's Messenger.

We do not learn that he was anything of a great trotter, or so

recognized in his own day, but we must remember that Ogden's Messenger was a thoroughbred, and from that fact would be one of the sons of Messenger whose trotting instinct would not amount to a paramount trait, and his impress on his offspring would not be demonstrative of great trotting quality—but the character was there, and would come out when road use or road crosses had so far eliminated the trotting quality from the racing or galloping inclination as to make the latter subordinate to the former. This was the case with all of his sons. Harris' Hambletonian and Abdallah, the grandsons, were the great trotting sires—far surpassing the sons of Messenger.

Black Warrior was by Tippoo, and was foaled about the year 1830, and his dam was a black mare, owned by a British officer in the regiment known as the First Royals, stationed at Kingston, Canada West. The mare was familiarly known as the "Warrior Mare," hence the colt was called Black Warrior, although he was more of a brown than a black.

He was foaled at Belleville, Canada West, and was owned by a Mr. Johnson. The owner started to remove to Michigan, and the stallion becoming lame on the way, he was traded to a Mr. Barnes, twenty miles south of London, Canada West, who kept him until his death. Much of his stock of the present day has descended from animals bred in the vicinity of London. The family of Warriors in that vicinity has been one embracing numerous members.

In his home, near London, he produced Royal George, and he in turn, in the same vicinity, produced McGregor Warrior, the sire of Panic; and the Panics, two or more, were bred in the vicinity of that place.

Warrior was a strong and well formed horse, fifteen hands three inches high, and most of the family are of that size, and many are one to two inches higher. They all show such a ready inclination for the trotting or the pacing gait as leaves it certain that the germ of the trotting family was there, whatever augmentation the impulse may have received in later branches of the family. They are noted for a strong and very striking family resemblance.

#### ROYAL GEORGE.

This stallion, a brown horse, which has given name to so large a family, was foaled some time after the year 1840. He was bred by Mr. Barnes, who was the owner of Black Warrior, near London, Canada West.

His dam was a mare that doubtless brought a reinforcement of the trotting blood, and whose history excites the belief that she had even as good a share of true Sampson trotting blood as the horse Tippoo, or his son Warrior. It is certain that in Royal George the strength and quality of the trotting impulse was greatly augmented.

The dam of Royal George was a dark bay mare, brought from Middlebury, Vt., by a Mr. Billington, and sold to Mr. Barnes, and was said to be by a horse called the "Bristol Horse." The horse well known in Vermont as "Bristol Horse" and "Bristol Grey," was the Harris Hambletonian, hence foundation has been laid for the supposition, and with many the belief, that the dam of Royal George was a daughter of Harris' Hambletonian, the great trotting sire of Vermont. It is apparent that we have nothing more than certain general facts to deal with, and these do not furnish clear or positive or really any absolute proof upon which we can found anything more than a supposition. If in the blood traits of the families descending from this union, we find traits and qualities that belonged to the Harris Hambletonian and the Ogden Messenger families, then indeed are we furnished with powerful corroboration of the evidences already presented in the vague and dim thread of history that follows the family.

It is clear, as before stated, that in Royal George the trotting quality of the family was greatly advanced, and this is taken as a proof that the dam was a mare of Messenger blood, and from the coincident names, a daughter of Harris' Hambletonian. But upon this it must be remarked, that the gait of the Royal Georges is not the gait of those descended from Harris' Hambletonian, and the difference is a clearly marked one. The trotters of the Harris Hambletonian type pick up their hind feet squarely, and with a folding of the members—all the muscles seemingly being called into action with vigor and energy—but in close compass. The hind feet are advanced squarely under the side—not reaching far forward or extending far backward. They are sent forward more by their vigor of action than the apparent long reach of the rear extremities.

The very opposite gait characterizes the Royal Georges. They do not seem to trail their hocks or hind feet out far behind them, but they do swing them around to the front, outside of, and in advance of the fore feet, with a very long forward reach. They seem to grab for a good deal of ground with their rear propellers. The action of the Royal Georges is in some degree similar to that of those

members of the Mambrino Chief family descended from Mrs. Caudle, although modified, of course, by the Duroc-Messenger method of the Chief's family. It is one that is suggestive of a longer member than that employed by the other Messenger families. The Royal Georges show a rather straight, unbending leverage, while the Harris Hambletonians display a shorter range of machinery, but a muscular control over it, exceedingly vigorous, and precise in its movement.

On a recent occasion, I was speaking with an Orange county horseman, very well known, and one who knows the gaits of that region, and I called his attention to the matter of gait of a noted trotter of the Royal George family, and he replied, "he is Star gaited—that is it exactly—he goes very wide apart." This incident illustrated my views quite well. The Royal Georges are not Star gaited any more than the Mambrino Chiefs are, but there is a degree of similarity.

These observations, however, do not necessarily interfere with the supposition that the dam of Royal George may have been a daughter of Harris' Hambletonian.

The sire Tippoo, if a son of Ogden's Messenger, may have inherited a physical conformation, tracing back to Gimeraek, which worked a modification of his Messenger anatomy as clear and unmistakable as that which Duroc derived from the same original, and which, in the two bloods of Messenger and Diomed, may have worked out in the very ways respectively seen in the Duroc descendants, and in the Royal Georges of the present day. An increase of leverage has been the undoubted product of that blood, and its origin was most probably with the grey racer Gimeraek.

When Royal George was about four years old, he was sold by Mr. Barnes to James Forshee, and was known as the "Forshee Horse" for several years. He then was sold to one Frank Munger, and from Munger he was sold to one Dougherty, of Caledonia. By Dougherty his name was changed to that of "Royal George," and by that he and his family are known to this day. In December, 1858, he was sold to W. H. Ashford, of Buffalo, and was kept at Buffalo and Lewiston. He died in 1861 at St. Catherines, Canada West. He was a large horse, sixteen hands high, and of great substance, remarkable for great vigor of action; long of limb, deep through the heart place and forequarter, a little like the pacing stock, and when starting off, he and his family often pace, but when they strike a trot they do it with a big swing of the hind feet, a wide spreading gait, and a long



forward reach of the hind foot, their great and powerful bodies and frames advancing with wonderful force and energy. He never was trained for speed, but had enough to beat State of Maine. He left many trotters and roadsters strongly and distinctively marked in type like himself.

#### TORONTO CHIEF.

One of the earliest sons of Royal George, was Toronto Chief, foaled 1851, while Royal George was in Canada, in the vicinity of London. He was a brown horse, his dam a small brown mare by Blackwood, a son of the original Blackwood, also called Cœur-de-Lion, a horse and a name very familiar in the vicinity of London, Canada West.

Toronto Chief was bred by George Larue, of Middlesex county, Ontario, and after several transfers was finally owned by Alexander Bathgate, of Westchester county, New York. He was a successful sire and a trotter of distinction. He proved his trotting qualities by his public record, his best race being on Fashion Course, in October, 1865, under saddle, when he beat Commodore Vanderbilt in three straight heats, in 2:25½, 2:24¾, 2:24¼. He was the first horse that ever trotted a half mile in 1:08½.

He is the sire of Rapid and Soubrette, and he produced Toronto Chief Jr., a brown horse—dam by Royal George.

He also produced Toronto, a brown horse, foaled 1861. His dam was Mealy-mouth, a mare of unknown blood.

He produced Toronto Sontag, or Genl. Wooster, from old Sontag by Harris' Hambletonian. He was foaled in 1859, and was owned in Connecticut.

#### THOMAS JEFFERSON.

His most distinguished son is Thomas Jefferson, one of the first trotting stallions of our day. He was foaled in 1863, and his dam was the celebrated mare Gipsy Queen, by Wagner, her dam by imported Glencoe. This is the pedigree given, although it is involved in much doubt.

She was bred in Tennessee, and was at one time owned and driven by Alfred Spink, a well known Chicago gentleman.

She commenced her trotting career at Chicago, in 1856, when she trotted mile heats and was beaten by the chestnut gelding, Henry Clay, and some days after she won a ten-mile race in 31:05, beating Olive Rose. She trotted mile heats in 2:44, and trotted a dead head with Capt. McGowan, of ten miles in 28:39, according to a statement

that appeared in the public journals. She was a mare of wonderful game and bottom. She could not trot a mile in better than 2:35, perhaps, but she could go through a ten-mile race and come out in the best of style.

She was also owned by W. B. Smith, of Hartford, Conn., the owner of the stallion Thomas Jefferson. This horse is sometimes called "Black Whirlwind." He has been on the turf for several years, and has trotted against Joe Brown, Pilot Temple, Smuggler, Mambrino Gift, Phil Sheridan, Commonwealth, Myron Perry, George Wilkes, Harry W. Genet, and many of the most famous trotters of our day. He has distanced Smuggler, Pilot Temple and Joe Brown. He has a record of 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and thirty-nine heats in 2:30 or better.

He trotted four races in 1869, and won two of them. In 1870 he trotted fourteen races, and won twelve. In 1871 he trotted nine races, and won five. In three years he trotted twenty-seven races, and won nineteen, and over nine thousand dollars in money, and was in the stud to some extent all of those years.

His own achievements have been sufficient to confer distinction on his family. I have not the means at hand to enable me to give the number of races he has trotted, but there are few horses on the turf that have equaled the number.

Moreover, he was an early trotter, and this to some degree is a characteristic of the Royal George family. He trotted as a two-year-old in 3:24; at three years, in 2:48; at four years, in 2:36; at six, in 2:33; at seven, in 2:29 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; at eight, two heats, in 2:25 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The above performances were record races, and it gave clear assurance that such was his capacity. This is another proof of consanguinity in the same blood whence Duroc came.

Thomas Jefferson has a son called Thomas Jefferson Jr., that trotted races, and won as a three-year-old, in 2:50 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:46 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:39 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:44. These were trotted in the spring of the year.

Few stallions can show such a record.

Thomas Jefferson is a black horse, with a small star, but is not quite so large as his family usually run. He stands fifteen hands one inch high, and is one-half inch higher behind. He is a very powerful horse, strong in every part. He is an impressive sire—a trait that follows the Royal George family of stallions. His colts produced by him when he was three years old, show the high trotting character of the family quite as positively as those produced in later years. I regret that I have not a list of his sons.

Toronto Chief, the sire of this stallion, also produced Royal Revenge, the sire of Fred Hooper, with record of 2:23, and thirty-two heats in 2:30 or better; and J. Ellis, 2:29. Another son was sire of Buzz, a brown colt four years old, with a record of 2:28½.

#### FIELD'S ROYAL GEORGE.

This has been one of the most successful of the sons of Royal George. He was foaled in 1853, and was a chestnut. He was bred by Geo. McKinley, of Oakville, Canada West. His dam was the Erin mare, by Erin; said to be son of Henry, grandam by Grand Turk. This is a Canadian pedigree with which I am not familiar. He was a large and elegant horse, on the model of his sire, for strength and way of going.

He has been a successful sire, and has left, among others, Royal George, a chestnut, foaled 1861; dam said to be a good mare of Duroe and Messenger blood. He was owned by Dr. A. C. Campbell, of Mt. Morris, New York. He is dead, but has left some valuable stock.

Field's Royal George is also the sire of

#### HOWE'S ROYAL GEORGE,

A chestnut stallion, foaled 1858; dam a chestnut mare by Smith's Flying Childers. Bred in Canada, and owned by Wm. Howe. He died in the fall of 1865. He was sire of Caledonia Chief, a chestnut horse, with a record of 2:29½, and two heats in 2:30 or better.

#### BYRON.

Field's Royal George was also sire of the chestnut stallion, Byron, one of the representative horses of the Royal George family. Byron was bred in the vicinity of Buffalo, and was foaled 1864. He is a rich chestnut in color, with a left hind foot white, and a small star in his forehead. He is sixteen hands high, strong, and well formed in every part. He has a nice mane, and a fair tail not very heavy, clean and sound limbs and feet. He is a trotter of the Royal George pattern, and one of the finest representatives of that family yet produced. His career as a trotter has placed him not only in the front rank of his own family, but high on the roll of great trotting stallions. With a record of 2:25¼, and fourteen heats in 2:30 or better, his name stands on the same roll with Gov. Sprague, Voltaire, Thorndale, Joe Brown, Thomas Jefferson, Allie West and Sam. Purdy, as one of the representative stallions of the period in which he lives, and if the pedigree of his dam was clearly known, it may



BYRON.

Winner of First Premium, Illinois, 1877.



be that in his pedigree he would carry a guarantee for success as a stallion not surpassed by any now before the country. But in the matter of certain and clearly authenticated pedigree he belongs to a family that have not, thus far, been peculiarly fortunate. That of his dam is involved in as much doubt as any part of this uncertain yet interesting historical sketch, each cloud, however, with the same silver linings that have characterized the origin of each of the preceding members. His dam was the O'Brien mare, a very famous and superior trotting mare, and one also distinguished by the success of her own produce, and those descended from her even in the second generation.

Her pedigree is at present unknown, and the efforts to find it have brought to light some faint traces that point to the fact that her sire was Harris' Hambletonian. If such fact should be authenticated, it would afford a guarantee that Byron was one of the best bred trotting stallions the country now possesses.

The rear leverage of Byron shows him to be a horse of great sweep and stride. He is  $40\frac{1}{2}$  inches from centre of hip to outer edge of hock, and his thigh is 24 inches long.

I cut the following scrap from a turf paper of very recent date:

Byron has trotted and won the following races:

At Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 10, 1871, he got a record of 2:25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; at Fredonia, N. Y., June 3, 1871, he beat Black Mack and Cattaraugus Chief—2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:31 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:29; at Cleveland, O., he beat Mathew Smith, Morrissey, Annie Watson and Fero, in 2:35 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:32 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 0:00, 2:35; at Hamilton, Ont., July 1st, he beat Lady Hamilton and Capt. Tom—2:35 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:35, 2:36 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; at Buffalo, July 29th, for a purse of \$1,000, he won in four heats, beating Molly, Ed. Forrest, Independence, Albatross and Sappho, in 2:31 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:28 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:31 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; at Sharon, Pa., Sept. 22d, for a purse of \$100, he beat Captain, in 2:40 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:40, 2:37 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; at Sharon, Pa., Sept. 23d, for a purse of \$300, Byron won in straight heats, beating Captain, Sally, Dictator and Grey John—2:35, 2:37, 2:38 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; at Zanesville, O., for a purse of \$500, on Oct. 19th, he beat Independence, Dictator and Annie Collins—2:34 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:36, 2:33 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; at Toronto, Can., Sept. 10, 1872, purse of \$500, he beat Derby, J. Ellis and Hornet—2:34 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:34 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:34 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; at Sandusky, O., Sept. 27th, purse \$500, he beat Mohawk Jr.—2:27 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:26 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:28; at Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 8th, purse \$1,000, he beat Hickory Jack and Jessie, in 2:38 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:38 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:29; at Greenville, Pa., Oct. 5th, purse \$600, he beat Gentle Annie—2:42 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:39 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:31 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; at Georgetown, Ky., Aug. 19th, 1875, Byron won the "free for all" in four heats—2:30 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:31 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:32 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:34 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; at Harrodsburg, Ky., July 9th, "free for all," purse \$300, Byron won in straight heats, beating Ed. Wilder, Gumball, Harrodsburg Boy and Little Nell—2:30, 2:32, 2:30; at Lexington, Ky., Sept. 30, 1875, purse "free for all," stallion making the season in Kentucky, Byron won in four heats, beating Mambrino

Boy and Mambrino Pilot Jr.—2:35 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:30 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:31 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:32; at Louisville, Ky., Aug., 1876, for a purse of \$500, Byron beat Josephine and Whirlwind—2:32, 2:32 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:31, 2:31 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:36.

#### HERSHEY'S ROYAL GEORGE.

This horse was a bay, and was foaled in 1858. He was by old Royal George, his dam was by Flag of Truce, a thoroughbred. He was bred in Canada West, and in 1867 was bought and taken to Iowa by Mr. B. Hershey, of Muscatine.

#### POWELL'S ROYAL GEORGE.

This horse was foaled in 1863, and was by old Royal George, dam by Kentucky Whip, and was owned by Powell Bros., of Crawford county, Pennsylvania.

#### MCGREGOR WARRIOR.

I have not the facts relating to the pedigree and history of McGregor Warrior, other than that he was by old Royal George, and was owned near London, Canada West. He was the sire of

#### PANIC.

The dam of Panic was by Blackwood; second dam by Foxhunter; third dam by imp. Truxton; fourth dam by imp. Prospect; fifth dam by Sir Henry. He is a large bay horse, owned by Hon. Lewis Steward, of Plano, Ill., and is the sire of *Young Panic*, owned at Iola, Kansas, by Dr. Fulton, who gives the same pedigree for the dam of *Young Panic* as given above for Panic. Mr. John H. Dulmadge, of London, Canada West, the breeder of Panic, sends me the statement that the pedigree is correct as to Panic. It is a Canadian pedigree, with which I am not familiar. Blackwood, doubtless, was either the original Cœur-de-Lion or a son of that horse of the same name, for such son was kept at or near London.

These two Panics are both well known to me. They are large bay horses, full sixteen hands high, and of great substance. The elder Panic has trotted in about 2:40, and I have already described their way of going.

The family all seem to have the faculty of imparting the trotting gait, much after the same style, and with a uniformity that goes far to repel the idea that they have had their origin in any pacing stock. They now and then show an inclination to pace, but do not breed enough natural pacers to warrant the conclusion that the pacing

element was the germ from which they sprang. Their type is too much of a fixed character, and they adhere to it with too great tenacity, to admit of their having had any mongrel origin.

## FAMILY RECORD.

The following summary taken from the 2:30 list will show the position and standing of the descendants of old Tippoo, the sire of Royal George:

Royal George has to his credit as a sire the following performers in the list of 2:30 or better:

Belle of Toronto, 2:30, and two heats.

Lady Byron, 2:28, and seven heats.

Lady Hamilton, 2:30.

Royal George Jr., 2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and nine heats.

Sir William Wallace, 2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and four heats.

Tartar, 2:28 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and three heats.

Toronto Chief, 2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$ , under saddle.

Old Tippoo, his sire, has a son, Sager Horse, sire of Clara, 2:27, and five heats; another called Tippoo Horse, has Jas. H. Burke, 2:27 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and four heats. Sportsman, another son of Old Tippoo, has to his credit Taconey, 2:27, and six heats.

Field's Royal George has Byron, 2:25 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and fourteen heats.

Howe's Royal George has Caledonia Chief, 2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and two heats.

Grantham Chief has Commodore Nutt, 2:29, and two heats.

I find a Black Warrior, pedigree not traced. He is a pacer and has to his credit Idol, 2:27 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and ten heats; Morrissey, 2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and eleven heats. I have no means of determining whether he belongs to this family, having no personal knowledge in the premises, but the range of the time, his name, and the fact that he is a pacer, are suggestive of a descent from this stock.

Toronto Chief has to his credit Thomas Jefferson, 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and thirty-nine heats.

Royal Revenge, son of Toronto Chief, has to his credit: Fred Hooper, 2:23, and thirty-two heats; John Ellis, 2:29.

Buzz, by a son of Toronto Chief, 2:28 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

His son, Niagara Chief, has to his credit Ben Flagler, 2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and eleven heats.

Thos. Jefferson, his son, has to his credit Mike Jefferson, 2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

This makes a total of twenty-one performers credited to this family, if we take the two by Black Warrior, the pacer, and an aggregate of



one hundred and sixty-five heats in 2:30 or better; and, in addition, this family being one in large part originating beyond our own borders, renders it most probable that several representatives of the family are included in the list from sires *unknown*.

In addition to the above, I have found a list as follows, but with no means to verify it:

Field's Royal George, 2:25 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Woodruff's Royal George, 2:26; Royal John, 2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Rapid, 2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Gen. Love, 2:30.

These, if record performers, should be added to the above list.

The one striking fact of this record is the number of heats in the vicinity of 2:25 to 2:27. To what family of like age and of equal number elsewhere can we point for a record that will compare with this, for uniformity and excellence? Taken in connection with the fact that they only at a comparatively recent period crossed, or perhaps recrossed our border, it is eminently suggestive that there is yet much to look for in the future of the family.

The Royal Georges seem to have been best known and most abundant about Buffalo and Niagara Falls, on both sides of the river.

The characteristics of the family are of a positive and clearly marked kind, and it must be confessed they bear a strong resemblance to the Duroc-Messenger family.

The qualities by which they are distinguished are easily delineated. They are large and very powerful horses. They are a family that, at an early age, display the great qualities for which they are distinguished all through life. They are ready and free drivers, courageous and full of game to the last, and possess the royal trotting quality which we have seen displayed in such eminent degree by the Duroc-Messengers.

They display a gait that is not exactly the same, but very nearly akin to it; suggesting that in its origin and growth it was in large part influenced by an agency similar to that which shapes and controls in the Duroc-Messenger.

They have their point of divergence—they are not marked by the same tendency to infirmities that follows the Duroc blood, and this to my mind suggests, that in their points of similarity they had a common origin, and in this divergent point they owe their difference in character to the fact that they have also in part come through different channels.

The summary of all which, in plain terms, is this, that to my mind the evidences point very strongly to the fact that through Tippoo

they derived their descent from Ogden's Messenger; and that through the dam of Ogden's Messenger, a daughter of Highflyer, whose dam was a daughter of Gimcrack, this family derived the anatomical conformation of a peculiarly long and strong thigh, the same that Duroc derived from Amanda, the granddaughter of Medley, the son of Gimcrack; and that this Gimcrack thigh is the index finger—the controlling member, that shapes and forms the character, the gait or way of going of our American trotters to a greater extent than any other one fact or circumstance in all the pages of equine history, to be seen, known and read of all men who will carefully and intelligently study the action of our respective trotting families; and further, that the taint or seeds of infirmity in the Durocs came from Diomed, and that this fact accounts for the point of divergence between the two families.

In this family, and in that of the Duroc-Messengers, a fact is presented which is worthy of special consideration. The Messenger horse and the Diomed family are both noted for what I term a short leverage—a thigh not over 22 to 23 inches in length, and a length from hip to hock of 38 to 39 inches—and in their way of going they show the effect of such a conformation in a close and even gait, not spreading wide behind. In the Duroc family, although he is a Diomed, there is a departure from this narrow gauge. The thigh of the Duroc-Messenger is from 24 to 25 inches in length, and he trots wide apart, often very wide, and the gait is one of marked peculiarity.

In the family of the Royal Georges, tracing, as they seem to do, to Ogden's Messenger, we find another family that go wide apart, a gait very analogous to, but not precisely like that of the Duroc-Messenger. It indicates the long thigh, and accompanying it a longer line from the hip to the hock than is found to prevail generally among the Duroc-Messengers, although the latter are not as uniform in this respect as they are in regard to the length of thigh. Some of them have the other measure long also, but generally they are not long from hip to hock. These facts suggest a unity of origin at some point, inasmuch as this peculiarity is not found in other families descended from the thoroughbred. When it is also found that the two families had a common ancestor in Gimcrack, equally distant from either, and that he is described in the same terms that are used to portray the physical peculiarities of Duroc, the conclusion is strongly supported that the peculiarity to which each of these families owes its gait and way of going—the long leverage—had its origin with the horse

Gimcrack. He was a horse foaled 1760. He was a very successful race horse, and was not beaten until he was six years old and not often then until much older. He ran a race of twenty-two and a half miles when he was six years old and continued on the turf until he was eleven years old. He was the sire of imported Medley, the sire of Grey Diomed, and the Medley cross has always been esteemed an excellent cross in a trotter.

This being established, if I am asked as to the effect of the blood of Harris' Hambletonian on the family, in case it is ascertained that the dam of Royal George was daughter of the Green Mountain sire, I answer, that it may be the cause of an augmentation of the intense trotting quality of the family and of the impressiveness of the stallions as sires, but that its influence on the long thigh and the gait is no greater than that of Abdallah and Hambletonian on the produce of Star mares—none at all. This Gimcrack or Duroc thigh, once planted, will grow. I have found that to be an axiom in horse breeding, and where the long thigh is, you will have the wide-spreading gait, and where the peculiar conformation of the American Star family exists, you will find the leg swinging as it were from the hip, not appearing to bend, but passing around at the side and reaching far forward. I observe recently one clever writer, whom I like very much, asks: "Who ever saw a Star mare that did not trot wide behind?" or, some such inquiry. Very true, but who ever saw a Star mare, or the son of one, except Jay Gould, that had a short thigh? But I have discussed that question elsewhere.

A matter worthy of observation may be suggested here. I have shown that in the blood of Diomed no trotting quality whatever existed, and that in Duroc the only element of adaptation was found in that form or physical conformation that made him a suitable scion upon which to engraft trotting inclinations; and further, that our best results in the Duroc-Messenger crosses were to be realized when we had advanced the furthest from Duroc and again came back to Messenger—that the Duroc factor was a valuable one, but it was most valuable when it had become closely allied to and deeply infused with Messenger blood and traits. The very opposite observation applies, and for good reason, to the Messenger-Gimcrack blood, as found in Ogden's Messenger.

In the Duroc-Messenger, the union came from Duroc himself and the daughters of Messenger—Duroc was relatively the stronger force; but in the other union it was Messenger himself and the dam of Gimcrack descent. I have all the while steadily taught that the

Duroc-Messenger blood must be employed on the side of the dam, and the strong blood of Messenger, Abdallah, or Hambletonian for the sire, unless the Duroc element was exceedingly remote, as in the case of Volunteer, Rhode Island and Gov. Sprague. That the best results in breeding came from that relation in union, unless in these exceptional cases, where the blood forces so worked that the Messenger was absolutely uppermost in the composition, as in the case of Allie West, and in Administrator, where each had a double Duroc cross, yet the Messenger was in the complete mastery. For such was the case in both of these stallions. A close examination and study of each, reveals the fact that the Duroc element was entirely subordinate. But in this Royal George family there is no such necessity for advancing away from the original source, for the reason that the Messenger was in the supreme control from the beginning. Hence the impressiveness of the sires of that family. Besides this, there was no such taint of infirmity as existed in the Diomed blood of Duroc, and further dilution and purification was unnecessary for the purposes of renovation. In short, the produce of Ogden's Messenger embodied the best of all elements for a trotting family, with no opposing or conflicting forces, except the Arab or galloping impulses which must have existed in a family so close to the thoroughbred, and these would rapidly lose strength and finally disappear in crossing upon the road and trotting stock of the country. Such has been the history of this family.

Tippoo was not much of a trotter, but he had the blood; in him was the germ, and when planted in trotting soil it had a rapid growth.

Royal George was beyond doubt a faster trotter than Abdallah, and he was also a prodigious sire. He produced more trotters and far faster ones than Abdallah, and was located in the wild woods of Canada during the most of his life, while Abdallah was in the centre of the greatest roadster and trotting region of the continent—among the finest trotting mares in the world. If Abdallah was the king of trotting stallions, what was Royal George? Abdallah only produced three performers that have records in 2:30, and the fastest, Sir Walter, 2:27, was from a daughter of Bellfounder. Royal George's list shows seven performers in 2:30, and with records of 2:26½, 2:27½, 2:28, 2:28½, 2:30, 2:30, and 2:24¼, under saddle. Which should wear the emblems of Royalty?

A close study of this family impresses me with the belief that they are a great and valuable element yet only beginning the career of their influence on our American trotting families. It is worthy of

consideration whether they are not an important and valuable branch upon which to engraft the blood of Abdallah, Hambletonian and the progressive trotting qualities of the New England Morgans, as found in Knox, Lambert and Taggart's Abdallah.

If Almont and Thorndale have been the result of the union of the Hambletonian and Mambrino Chief families, and if they present an increase of speed and trotting quality in the union of the two, what may we not hope and expect from uniting the blood of Administrator, Cuyler, Almont, Thorndale, and Florida, with that of the Royal George family, in its best representatives?

Moreover, the trotting blood of Messenger, Bellfounder, Duroc, and of Tippoo, has so far become naturalized by this time, and so far adapted to the purposes of the trotting gait, that there will be few, if any, impediments in the way of uniting and reuniting them at pleasure.

Still further, the Royal George family has now become sufficiently numerous and has passed through enough renewals of its blood to possess sufficient variety to enable us to interbreed in the same blood, and in this there is a probability of still further advancement. It is not a very old family in our trotting lists, and one or two more generations may see it present the champion trotters and trotting stallions of this country. I do not esteem this among the improbabilities.

Were I to give my ideas as to the method of advancing the family, it would be to take the best of mares from, perhaps, the family of Field's Royal George—if Byron's dam was a Harris Hambletonian, his full sister or one bred in that way would fill my plans—and I would send such a mare thus strong in the blood to Thomas Jefferson. I think Jefferson a good sire for a promiscuous selection of mares, but he will be better when bred back to his own stock. His dam, while a trotter, had not trotting blood from which she could endow or establish a family. The strong impress came from the side of the sire, and Jefferson, from a daughter of Field's horse, would produce a sire that would make one of the most impressive sires we have ever seen. So would Byron from a daughter of Jefferson or of Toronto Chief.

I dismiss the family, in the belief that they present, in their successful history and their superior combinations, elements of great interest and value, both to the philosophical student and to the intelligent and enterprising breeder.

May their domain be still extended; may the sceptre of their ROYALTY be yet seen on many of the public courses of the continent; and may the result declare that he only is *Royal* who has the speed to win and the might to rule.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### THE BASHAWS AND CLAYS.

THE Bashaws derive their name from the Barb horse Grand Bashaw, imported from Tripoli in the year 1820. The numerous and valuable family of Clays, the descendants of Andrew Jackson and Long Island Blackhawk, belong to this stock.

The circumstances of the importation of Grand Bashaw, are related in a letter from Hon. Richard B. Jones, formerly consul to Tripoli, which has been made public.

In 1818, Mr. Jones, then residing at Tripoli, had loaned some Danish officers a valuable Arabian horse, which by accident they killed. On the following morning Mr. Jones found Grand Bashaw in his stable, sent to replace the lost Arab. The offer of compensation was declined, but at the suggestion of Mr. Jones, Mr. Morgan, then residing with him, bought Grand Bashaw, and he was subsequently, through the aid of our consul, imported along with Grand Sultan and Saladin. He is described by Mr. Jones as a Barb of the purest lineage; a black, with a small white star and snip, and very beautiful. He died in Pennsylvania in 1845.

### YOUNG BASHAW.

During the first year of his stud service, 1821, Grand Bashaw produced Young Bashaw from Pearl, by Bond's First Consul, grandam by imported Messenger. This horse became the founder of the numerous and distinguished trotting families above named, and his was the only branch of the descendants of Grand Bashaw that showed any such qualities. As I have previously stated, not a trace of trotting quality has ever been discovered as coming directly from any pure Barb or Arab. As the grandam of Young Bashaw was a daughter of Messenger, and as Young Bashaw was a coarse looking grey horse, in every respect strongly taking after the Messenger family, and one that excelled in trotting quality, and was noted for

producing a trotter every time he was united with a mare of Messenger blood, the case is a very clear one, in view of what we know of the bearings of that blood, that he derived his trotting qualities, which he transmitted to his own descendants, from his Messenger grandam; and that the so-called Bashaw and Clay families are, in reality, a branch of the family of the great and most wonderful Messenger; and that they owe all their celebrity to the Black Coach horse of mixed Lincolnshire and thoroughbred descent, which produced Sampson, the real founder of our great trotting family.

Grand Bashaw was about fourteen hands one inch in height—a full sized Barb. His son, Young Bashaw, was about fifteen hands one inch, and was not in any sense a handsome horse. Whatever may have been his inheritance from his sire, beauty was no part of it. It is stated that during his first season's service, he got no more than eight foals, and that some of these proved to be trotters, which is evidence that there was blood somewhere. Of this first season's service came Andrew Jackson, the best trotting stallion of his day, and the immediate progenitor of the present Clay and Bashaw family. Besides Andrew Jackson, Young Bashaw produced Black Bashaw, Charlotte Temple, Washington, and other animals of note. He died in 1837. He was undoubtedly a horse of great superiority, and would in our day be regarded as a pearl above price.

#### ANDREW JACKSON.

Andrew Jackson was foaled in 1827, and was by Young Bashaw, from a black pacing mare of unknown blood. She was a mare that came in a drove of horses (as was very common in those days, and until the advent of railways) from Ohio to Philadelphia. She was most probably a Western bred mare; was regarded as a good one; she both paced and trotted, and was most probably a mare of natural trotting habit, that had been taught to pace under the saddle. From a personal knowledge of the ways of going in Ohio at a later period, I am able to say, that a natural pacer was hardly ever taught to trot; but a natural trotter—by which I mean one of ordinary speed—was often, from use under the saddle, taught to pace; and thus both gaits were quite common, much more so than great speed at either way of going.

The career of Andrew Jackson began with an incident, which, while it might have furnished the *name* for one branch of his descendants, came near, also, depriving the entire family of a name and

existence before their day. After his dam was bred to Young Bashaw, she became the property of one Daniel Jeffreys, a brick maker, and she brought forth her colt in a brick yard, where the first adventure of the youngster, before he was able to feed from his mother, was to tumble into one of the pools or pits where they had mixed the clay for making brick, out of which he was dragged in no state to give any promise of the future greatness of the Clay family. He seemed, either from the mishap that attended his birth, or from natural weakness, to be a worthless colt, and could not stand erect on his pasterns but bent them over at every effort to stand upright. His owner was ready to have him destroyed and put out of sight, but the motherly kindness of his wife saved the colt. A little careful nursing soon brought him out, and the Andrew Jackson trotting stallion of later years lived to make rich returns for the early but important acts of kindness which saved his life. How many breeders have lost valuable colts from the lack of a little care for two or three days at like critical periods. I am of the number.

Andrew Jackson was a strong, compact, well-formed horse on short legs. He was a jet black, with a white strip in his face, and three white legs—a color and set of marks that follow the family with very great tenacity to the present day.

Andrew Jackson was not only a trotter of distinction in his day, but, as a sire of trotting horses, he ranked in his time next to Abdallah. While he did not equal the latter in point of breeding, his trotting qualities were so far cultivated and kept in a state of high development, that he left his mark as a trotting sire very impressively. His races seem to have been two-mile heats mainly, and he generally made the time for the two miles in 5:19 to 5:25. It was claimed in his day that he could trot a mile in 2:30, but he made no such record. He was the sire of Kemble Jackson, who was also a trotter famous for bottom in those days, and made a three-mile record of 8:03, and a record of 2:40 for a single mile to wagon.

#### LONG ISLAND BLACKHAWK.

In the year 1837, Andrew Jackson produced the black stallion, Long Island Blackhawk, the first stallion to trot in 2:40 with a 250 pound wagon. His dam was the famous mare, Sally Miller, the old-time competitor of Andrew Jackson. This son was highly distinguished, like his sire, both as a trotter and the sire of trotters. His dam, Sally Miller, was claimed to be a daughter of Mambrino, but



later evidences seem to show that she was by a son of Tippoo Saib. She was a mare of great merit, and trotted two-mile heats and beat many of the early celebrities of the Messenger family. Long Island Blackhawk produced several of the same name, among them Vernol's, Brooks' and Seely's; the latter from a daughter of Tom Thumb, the Canadian, and she was daughter of the Charles Kent mare, by Bellfounder, the dam of Hambletonian.

#### GREEN'S BASHAW.

From this same mare, Belle, by Weber's Tom Thumb, Vernol's Blackhawk produced Green's Bashaw, a horse that has attained celebrity in the West, both as a trotter and as a sire of trotters. He has shown a capacity to trot in 2:24, and has produced Bashaw Jr., record 2:24 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and twenty-eight heats in 2:30 or better; Kirkwood, record 2:24, and four heats in 2:30; Rose of Washington, 2:27, and eight heats in 2:30; Wild Oats, 2:29 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Wapsie, the sire of Gen. Grant, who has a record of 2:21, and fifteen heats in 2:30; and West Liberty, 2:28, and three heats in 2:30. He is yet living, and has been a very noted stallion for a long time. His Canadian cross appears in most of his stock in the short and thick neck by which they are distinguished, but his blood will be found very valuable, especially as a vigorous outcross to the closely in-bred Hambletonian and Abdallah families. He is a black horse, with no other white than a star, and breeds blacks, bays and many dark chestnuts. He was foaled in 1855, and was owned for many years by the late Joseph A. Green, of Muscatine, Iowa, and is now owned in Illinois.

Long Island Blackhawk also produced the stallion Eureka, a name that occurs quite frequently in the pedigree of Eastern bred horses.

He was also the sire of the chestnut stallion Mohawk, that proved to be a very valuable horse, and left as his representatives, Elmo, record of 2:27, and eight heats in 2:30; Mohawk Chief, 2:30; Hall's Mohawk, 2:26; and Mohawk Jr., 2:25, and eight heats in 2:30. He died in 1869, after six years service in Knox county, Ohio.

I have also seen the statement that the stallion Nonpariel was by Long Island Blackhawk, although he is also in the *Trotting Register* credited to Cassius M. Clay. He has three trotters in the 2:30 list: California Damsel, 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Commodore Perry, 2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and Western New York, 2:29. Nonpariel was probably by Cassius M. Clay.

## JUPITER.

From Long Island Blackhawk came also the stallion Jupiter. His dam was Gipsy, by Almack, son of Mambrino. He was the sire of Jupiter Abdallah, and from him comes another distinguished line of roadsters and trotters, uniting the blood of Blackhawk and Abdallah. I have fully noticed Jupiter Abdallah in Chapter XVI.

Jupiter has to his credit Lady Emma, with record of 2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and sixteen heats in 2:30 or better; also of Lady Hughes, with record of 2:30.

Long Island Blackhawk also has to his credit Prince, called Hartford Prince, with record of 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and eleven heats in 2:30 or better.

## HENRY CLAY.

From Andrew Jackson came also the black stallion Henry Clay, foaled in 1837. He was the head or founder of the Clay family. His dam was the Canadian trotting mare called Surry, whose name has been handed down to us as the source of the quitting propensities of the Clay family, by which they have earned the unenviable and unmerited cognomen of *Saw-dust*.

She was herself a trotter, and she undoubtedly had a large share in the make-up of the Clay family that have descended from her as their immediate maternal ancestor of the same name. From her history we only know that she was a Canadian and a trotter, and the dam of Henry Clay.

This horse, Henry Clay, lived to the age of thirty years, and was held in great esteem in the district where he lived. He was always accused of being untrue and lacking in courage or pluck in the heated contest of the race, and is generally credited with having transmitted the same quality to his descendants. That it was a trait of character which was introduced into the family by the mare Surry, is generally admitted, but that it was a lack of courage or pluck, or physical stamina, is denied by many and must be regarded as very doubtful. The best representatives of the family have either been quitters or have transmitted the quality to their descendants. Geo. M. Patchen was certainly a great horse and one that possessed the best of blood, yet some of his sons were the worst of quitters.

Neaves' Cassius M. Clay Jr. was bred from the finest strain of blood on the dam's side known in our American trotter, and his son, Sayer's Harry Clay, came from a daughter of imported Bellfounder, and was the fastest horse of the Clay family in his day, but was an arrant quitter. All the blood of Messenger and Bellfounder failed to efface

the trait. It was undoubtedly a mental quality that, when collared by an antagonist and likely to be forced to the utmost, caused them to sulk, or refuse to do their best. Boston had this trait; his grandson, Harry Bassett, exhibited it, and neither of them lacked courage or pluck. They did not win, because they would not.

This mare Surry, however, did engraft on the family one point or element which they carry to the present day, and by which they are distinguished at least from the family of Abdallah, namely, in the increased length of rear leverage and the coarseness or heaviness of conformation of the hindquarter. It is a family trait, and marks them even among the Hambletonians, who also receive an elongation and a growthy development in that quarter from Bellfounder, but not of the same character precisely that follows the Clays. Bellfounder, and the Hambletonians who follow him, were not wide across the hips. They had a round and strong loin and a straight or goose rump, a meaty buttock as it was termed, and a long leverage, from hip to hock; but the Clays are heavy in the hindquarter and are wide across the hips, and have a rounder and more drooping rump, with general heaviness of the hindquarter.

Henry Clay is often referred to and described as a horse with a long thigh, a strong thigh, and hock well let down. Those who knew him well, all agree that he had much of the strong and long rear propellers that marked the Canadian cross. This is a feature that follows the larger and better trotters of Canadian blood. It was one of the distinctive features of St. Lawrence, and yet marks his descendants. But there can be no doubt that the strong concentration of the blood of Messenger in the later Clays, and the well known superiority of that blood, has had the same effect on the Canadian leverage in the Clays that it has had on the Bellfounder elongation in Hambletonian—it did not survive more than the first generation, yet its remote effects are still visible.

The Clays are not so elastic in trotting action as the Abdallah and Champion families, and trot with a heavier jog and more demonstrative and violent way of going, but in other regards not very unlike the other Messengers. In this description I except the produce of Sayer's Harry Clay, where the Canadian blood, reinforced by that of Bellfounder, made a great and important change not only in the gait but in the qualifications of the family for trotting and breeding purposes.

As a family the Clays have a superior physical conformation of much strength, and in great part well adapted to the trotting gait, but

they lack in the high nerve and splendid brain qualities of the Abdallahs. They have not the lofty trotting quality and ready courage of the Duroc-Messenger cross. They are far below it.

A well-known gentleman has very recently, through the turf journals, given to the public a particular account and description of Henry Clay, from which I make the following extracts:

He was a coal black horse, about 15½ hands high, with a short, but limber neck, rather thin than heavy, a good square head, a little large, as most level-headed good stallions do have. His muzzle was somewhat large and square, but still fine in the outline, with active lips and nostrils. His eye was large and pleasant, but full of fire; ears rather short, but wide apart, and active, ever on the alert. In the forehead was a remarkable white crescent, very perfect, the line of which extended up and down, that is, one horn above the eyes, the other below. The neck was set on fine shoulders, union with the withers being perfect, running into a deep brisket; shoulders very oblique, elbows well out from the chest, giving plenty of room for play, without beating the heart and lungs; arms large, long and powerful, knee large and flat, as was the cannon, but very short, set on short but springy pasterns. Back tendons unusually large, and hard, setting out from the bone like a well-drawn rope, almost as large as the bone in some of the horses of the present day. Feet rather large, but round and handsome, wide in the heel, with a wall thick and tough enough to trot a race barefoot. Was deep and wide through the lungs and heart. Body long and round, well ribbed out, with very large ribs, or bone, not, however, running up close to the hip, rather open there. Back long, coupled well back to very long hips, but so drooping as to look exceedingly short, when really they were very long from the coupling. Very broad and strong over the loin, *great length from point of hip to hock, powerful quarters set well down to large gaskins*. Hocks large, but clean. The picture of the hind leg was a first-class sickle leg. The tail was rather hairy, coarse and wavy, with more or less white hairs at the root of dock, which same he put upon most all his colts; whether bay, brown or black, these white hairs were most often there. In motion he had rather high knee action and when going square, the movement of his hind legs was the same as with Sprague's, but when excited, or the road stony or rough, he was mixed, a real Canada Foxrun, but with the first chance, he would square himself away from preference.

From the line, back, he was a perfect old-time Kanuck, while all forward was every true horseman's "beau ideal" of a perfect horse. Hips were sharp, indicating the nervous, wide-awake temperament. In disposition and temper, he was a real lovable horse, because pleasant, cheerful, prompt, and ever ready to the word, and always ready to do quick when asked.

Money and fashion may make horses, but it don't make an "Old Henry Clay." The last time I went to see him was in October, 1865. Mr. Fellows who owned him, knew I loved the old horse, and asked me "would I not like to see him out." Thinking not to trouble him, knowing the old horse had long been blind, I replied "Never mind:" but the door of his box was swung wide.

open, and with a cheerful, "Come, Henry," the old horse sailed out into the barnyard, with as lofty and as sure a step as though he could see every spot to place a foot.

First, in his box, his wish was to do all you asked, and that cheerfully and quick; not nip, bite, strike, kick, or sulk, but with a prompt, cheerful, glad-to-see-you air. Then in harness, the positive confidence he established in your bosom for the work, be it long, hard and rough, or short, all the same; he was willing. Then in the stud, you knew for certain that he would not beget a lazy brute.

During the late years of his life, this horse Henry Clay was owned by General Wadsworth, of Geneseo, New York, and was kept in the interior of that State. While there, according to the weight of testimony, he produced the mare Dolly Spanker, a famous road mare that became the dam of the stallion George Wilkes, described fully in Chapter XIII, known in his early life as Robert Fillingham. I may here say that this horse, and the several Clay stallions known in this country and coming from the same stock, were generally reputed to be quitters, but from him and others of the name came many mares that became the dams respectively of numerous distinguished trotters, and, so far as I now recall, this quitting characteristic seemed to rest in its full force mainly with the produce of the male members of the Clay family, although the sons of some of these daughters have shown the same trait.

George Wilkes, although inclined to sulk occasionally, became one of the most celebrated of the sons of Hambletonian, both as a trotter and a sire of trotters—and other Clay mares have been equally celebrated, as dams of great trotters, among whom the name of a real quitter or soft horse can not be found. Rarus, Bodine, St. Julien, Gazelle, Prospero, Reform, Happy Thought, Elaine, Electioneer, Idol, Louis Napoleon, Peacemaker the sire of Midnight, Knickerbocker, and Hambletonian Prince, all came from mares descended in the direct line from Henry Clay—as is fully set forth in Chapter XIII.

#### CASSIUS M. CLAY.

In 1843, Henry Clay produced Cassius M. Clay, from a mare whose blood can not be established, but which was undoubtedly of the very best quality. She was reputed to be a Mambrino, but without any other probable evidence than the locality in which she was owned—the city of Brooklyn—the fact that in appearance she resembled the Mambrino, and that she displayed in an eminent degree the trotting qualities of that family.

By chance, she came in contact with a little Canadian stallion of no great quality, and the result was, she produced a colt that afterward became the trotter John Anderson, of some celebrity, and it then occurred to the owner of the mare, that if she could produce such a trotter from an ordinary pony, it might be a good investment to send her to Henry Clay, then a popular stallion of recognized merit and excellent blood. The suggestion was acted upon, and the produce was Cassius M. Clay, certainly one of the most noted stallions this country has yet produced.

He is recorded as standing at the head of the list of trotting stallions of his day, and such fact is conceded by all. He was a brown horse, and lived only eleven years. He produced Neaves' Cassius M. Clay Jr. in 1848; Geo. M. Patchen in 1849; Strader's Cassius M. Clay Jr. in 1852; Iron Duke in 1853; and Amos' Cassius M. Clay Jr. in 1854. He also produced the stallion Telegraph, from whom came the dam of Rarus. He left several other sons and daughters who enter conspicuously into the trotting families of this country.

#### NEAVES' CASSIUS M. CLAY JR.

Neaves' Cassius M. Clay Jr. was a brown horse, marked as the family before him for several generations, and transmitted the same marks—white face and legs—to his descendants with great uniformity.

He was exceedingly well bred, and was a fast and valuable stallion. His dam was by Chancellor, son of Mambrino, and his grandam by Engineer second, the sire of Lady Suffolk. He was in the stud only a short time, and was destroyed in consequence of breaking his leg.

He produced the fast mare Cora, a black mare that trotted in  $2:37\frac{3}{4}$  as a three-year-old, and was afterward lost in a fire. He also produced Sayer's Harry Clay from a daughter of imported Bellfounder, that now occupies a position before the country by virtue of the merits of his daughters as dams of trotters, second in that respect to no stallion we have ever seen.

#### GEORGE M. PATCHEN.

George M. Patchen ranked deservedly as one of the great trotters and trotting stallions of this country.

The pedigree of his dam is not known, that which has been given in the *Trotting Register* having been overturned by the editor, apparently with a view of setting up one in its place. In the case of several mares that have become the dams of great trotters or sires,

the collateral evidences of locality, date and blood qualities come in to supplement other known proofs, and in many cases, establish a pedigree with a tolerable degree of certainty. In the case before us, but little beyond surmise can be indulged in support of the pedigree, beyond the one fact, which seems to be certain, that no one can positively contradict the assumed facts on which it rests. According to the recent version of this pedigree, it is claimed that the dam of George M. Patchen was a chance foal—begotten by a two-year-old stallion that jumped into the pasture where the grandam was kept. This two-year-old stallion is supposed to have been a colt called Head'em, by imp. Trustee, out of Itaska by American Eclipse, and was a thoroughbred, and exceeding well bred if that be the pedigree.

The above is the recently found pedigree for the sire of Patchen's dam. The one that has been long current and generally given by those acquainted with the horse while living, is, that the young stallion was a full brother to Trustee, the twenty-mile trotter, whose dam was the famous mare Fanny Pullen, and that he was castrated and driven as a road horse afterward. If such was the horse, he was a good one, and the very excellent quality of the blood ought to have been visible in the immediate and other descendants of George M. Patchen. For in trotting quality, the blood of American Eclipse, whose dam was the racing mare Miller's Damsel, by Messenger, did not equal that of the part bred horse Winthrop Messenger, the sire of Fanny Pullen. But either version of the pedigree must be regarded as equally doubtful, as the man who owned the dam of Patchen when one year old, and whose brother raised her, says she was foaled in 1838, and he owned her until she came to full age, and sold her to Richard Carman, the breeder of Patchen. Trustee's oldest son in this country was foaled in 1838—same age as the filly. If she was by such son, she was not foaled until 1841.

The grandam of George M. Patchen was a coarse sorrel mare of no mentionable merit, used in a dirt wagon in the city of New York, but the produce of this union, whatever may have been the sire, was a light chestnut filly that proved to be an unusually good one. She was driven as a match for a mare that cost fifteen hundred dollars, and over matched into the bargain. She produced Geo. M. Patchen in 1849, and he attained great eminence on the trotting turf, and reached a record of 2:23½. His competitors were Gen. Butler, Flora Temple, Lanceet, Henry Clay, and many of the greatest trotters of the period. He died in 1854, aged fifteen years, and left some very superior produce, but not in such great numbers as his distinguished sire.

He was the sire of Lucy, with a record of 2:18 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Patchen Chief, 2:25 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; California Patchen, 2:27; Mary, 2:28; Godfrey's Patchen, sire of Hopeful, 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Lady Snell, 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; George H., 2:26; Henry W. Genet, 2:26; Rex Patchen, 2:30; and Wellesley Boy, 2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Also of George M. Patchen Jr., sire of Sam. Purdy, 2:20 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; McMann, 2:28 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; San Bruno, 2:25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and Smith's Patchen, sire of Orient, 2:24.

His stock are all stout, and show the Messenger blood in its most characteristic form. His grandsons, Sam. Purdy, Hopeful and Orient, are large horses with heavy quarters, broad across the hips and loin, but no longer from hip to hock, or in the thigh, than the Messenger standard of 39 and 23. They constitute a formidable trio on the trotting turf. All of his own sons that I have ever seen have very large heads, not homely in form but simply large and coarse, evidently going back to the coarse and low breeding of his grandam. His tendency to breed back toward her in great part accounts for his attaining no greater eminence in the stud.

AMOS' C. M. CLAY JR. was the sire of the celebrated mare American Girl that made a record of 2:16 $\frac{1}{2}$  to date, the fastest representative of the Clay or Bashaw family in the direct line. The name of IRON DUKE occupies a place in several valuable pedigrees.

#### STRADER'S CASSIUS M. CLAY JR.

One of the finest bred trotting stallions now living is Strader's C. M. Clay Jr., owned by Gen. W. T. Withers, of Lexington, Kentucky, and is the stable companion of Almont.

He was foaled in 1853, and is consequently now twenty-five years old, but shows no visible indications that he has not as many years yet before him. He was by old Cassius M. Clay; first dam by Abdallah; second dam by Lawrence's Eclipse; third dam the Charles Hadley mare by imported Messenger. He was bred under the following circumstances: Dr. Spaulding, of Greenupsburg, Kentucky, through Joseph H. Godwin, of New York, the then owner of Neaves' Cassius M. Clay Jr., purchased the Abdallah mare in New York, and bred her to old Cassius the sire, and the mare in foal was shipped to Greenupsburg, Ky., or Franklin Furnace, Ohio, and there gave birth to this horse. He in later years became the property of the Messrs. Strader, of Cincinnati, and Boone county, Kentucky, and was thenceforward called Strader's Cassius M. Clay Jr.

He spent one or more seasons at Lexington, and then was in charge of George W. Ogden, near Paris, Kentucky, and afterward



went to the hills of Boone county, where he remained until in 1876, when he became the property of Gen. Withers and returned to Lexington, where he ought justly to have lived from the beginning of his career until the close of it. His removal from the Blue Grass region was unfortunate for his reputation, and more unfortunate for the breeding interest of the whole country.

His success with thoroughbred mares, and with those highly bred but utterly wanting in trotting qualities themselves, stamped him as a very valuable stallion. I have seen as fine trotting action in the produce of this horse from thoroughbred mares, as any I have seen anywhere. A bay filly, three years old, whose dam was old Midway by Boston, the only mare that ever beat the renowned Lexington a single heat in a race, was one of elegant finish and superior trotting quality. I do not know what became of her. The mare Jenny Miller, out of a highly bred mare, was taken to Hartford, and was an elegant trotter and a very superior mare. From a thoroughbred mare by imported Tranby, he produced

#### AMERICAN CLAY,

A beautiful bay horse that was made blind from an attack of catarrhal fever, but at the age of twelve years he was trotting, totally blind, in 2:35, against his own sons and daughters, one of the most numerous families in the State of Kentucky. Magic, the sire of Post Boy, 2:26½; Curtis Clay; Ella Clay, 2:27½; Union Clay; Granville, 2:26; Maggie Briggs, 2:27—were all by American Clay. He was owned by the late Thos. L. Coons, of Fayette county, Ky.

Another son of Strader's Clay was GEN. HATCH, from a mare by imported Envoy out of the dam of American Clay; he was also a successful stallion of very fine quality.

Another son, Crittenden, was one of the fastest young stallions ever bred in Kentucky, and is a horse of great superiority.

He also produced Kentucky Clay from the dam of Lady Thorn, but I believe he was not very popular.

#### NEELY'S HENRY CLAY.

This is a stallion which combines two great and valuable elements, and should make a superior stallion. He was foaled in 1869, and is a handsome, large bay stallion, very evenly formed. He is by Strader's Cassius M. Clay, dam Sue Letcher, by Alexander's Norman. He was awarded the first premium at the Illinois State Fair, and it is believed

the produce of this horse must show results of value to the breeders of trotting horses.

Strader's Clay is a brown horse, almost black, with no white except a very large clear star in his forehead, and a sprinkling of white hairs all over his body. He stands close to sixteen hands high, but has the short, close leverage of the Messenger family. He is a pure Messenger—one of the purest living.

His measure from hip to hock is  $37\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and length of thigh 23 inches.

His action is of the elastic kind, with a sharp and steady stroke, reaching his heels out in the rear, but gathering very quick. He is a pure trotter, and at twenty years old could turn a mile track in 2:30 with ease; has trotted in public in 2:28, and is capable of even better speed. But for his age, in form, gait, temper and purity of blood he ranks in the front line of American roadster stallions.

In the color of his descendants he does not follow the standard black that prevailed so long in his own family. Bays are very numerous.

The following extracts, though taken from a breeder's circular, correctly state the history and prominence of Strader's C. M. Clay Jr.:

In the fall of 1869, when sixteen years old, he made a public record at Lawrenceburg, Ind., of 2:30 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; and in 1870, over the Buckeye Course at Cincinnati, lapped Pilot Temple in a heat of 2:30 $\frac{3}{4}$ , though he struck himself during the heat and had to be drawn. In 1865, he was driven a trial to a wagon, at Chicago, in 2:26, and has taken numerous premiums at the Fairs in Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana, and was never beaten but once. He is now in fine health, and looks and moves like a young horse, and can speed a 2:30 gait.

Harry Clay, by C. M. Clay, 1877, his second on the turf, made a record of 2:23 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and won the 2:27 purse at Cynthiana, Ky.

His prepotency as a trotting sire is proven by the remarkable fact, that out of a thoroughbred race mare he sired American Clay, who is not only a trotter himself of high order, but has sired numerous winners of hotly contested races in fast time.

The trotting records show that more than one-half of the noted trotters in the male line of the Clay family, have descended from Cassius M. Clay Jr., and his celebrated half brother, George M. Patchen, since they came into the stud. He is the sire of American Clay, General Hatch, Neeley's Harry Clay, Byerly's Clay, of Owosso, Mich., (public trial in 2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ), James C. Norral, Clement, Conscript, Kentucky Clay, Katie Clay, Bertie Clay, Strader, Sunbeam, Robin Clay, Bob Strader, Whip Clay, Minnie, Crittenden, and many other good ones. Crittenden, at two years old, trotted a trial in public of half a mile in 1:19 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and at three years old trotted a full mile in 2:29, and trotted a quarter in 33 seconds—a 2:12 gait.

Strader's Clay, through his son American Clay, is grand sire of a large number of fast trotters, among them Maggie Briggs, five years old, record of 2:27; Ella Clay, 2:30; Granville, 2:30 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Alta, 2:32; Arthur, 2:32; Magic, 2:33; Puss Thompson, 2:34; Fleta, 2:34 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Gale, —; Bill Thunder, 2:34 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Carlisle Jennie B., 2:36; Curtis Clay, 2:36; and Driftwood, 2:37.

Alta was one of the fastest trotters ever bred in Kentucky. He died from an accident when six years old, after trotting low down in the twenties.

#### SAYER'S HARRY CLAY.

It has now been only a few years since the Clay blood was held in great disfavor by many breeders, and by those who assumed the task of enlightening the public in the art of breeding trotters, a matter that is in most cases undertaken by a class of persons who never owned or bred a trotting horse in their lives; but it is one of those subjects so easy to write upon that any one can do it. By many such, and by some of the first breeders in the country, embracing some of the most eminent gentlemen connected with the horse interest, the opinion was entertained that the Clay blood was a real drug in any trotter. They gave it the name of *Saw-dust*, and it seemed to be the one unfashionable cross that all sought to avoid.

No one attempted an analysis of this blood, or sought to give a reason for this prejudice beyond the fact that they had generally gained the name of *quitters*, as was generally supposed from the low breeding and lack of stamina in the mare Surry, dam of Henry Clay.

The small quantum of real philosophy exhibited in all this, is shown to advantage more aptly by the fact that recently, say for the past three or four years, the popular cut has been the Clay cross in the trotter, especially in the Hambletonian. It has been the *creme de la creme*. But in nearly all cases it was based on general grounds—"the Clay cross," that was enough, and it was without limitation or qualification. More recently, a gentleman somewhat in advance of his contemporaries in general, in his catalogue, a large and fine one, announced that the record shows that the blood of Hambletonian combined with that of Neaves' C. M. Clay Jr. and that of Seely's American Star, has given the grandest horses that were ever bred in any country.

I have treated of the Star cross in another chapter, but would like to inquire, what trotter ever came from a son of Neaves' Clay and a daughter or granddaughter of Hambletonian? or, what one ever came from any Hambletonian sire and a daughter of Neaves' Clay?

I know of no such celebrity as could establish the fame of an entire family, much less recall one for a long time consigned to the shades of obscurity and obloquy.

But to come, not only within the range of truth, but to the very truth itself, it is a fact undeniable, and now teaching lessons that have long been overlooked, that the greatest success since the union of the blood of Abdallah and that of Bellfounder in Hambletonian, has been the crossing of Hambletonian and his sons, on mares by the son of Neaves' Clay, known as the Sayer's Harry Clay. One of the earliest of this class was the mare Gazelle by Hambletonian, and she attained a record of 2:21, and was reported to be even several seconds faster; then at a later period the same horse gave us James Howell Jr., 2:24. Soon after the son of Volunteer, Bodine, began to show his great and powerful stride, and has since attained a record of 2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ . His dam was a very coarse mare, having herself come from a mare of moderate pretensions for blood or capacity.

Soon afterward, Prospero, a son of Messenger Duroc, came out trotting with great promise, the credit all being claimed, however, for his sire, who was to be the great stallion of the present, especially with Abdallah and Star mares, from which he has not yet produced a trotter. Prospero was a black, and carried the white strip of the Clays in 2:20, and if he does get out of fix now and then, it is not due to any *quit* in the Clay blood.

Not to confine the happy hit to the Hambletonians, Geo. Palmer, son of Ames' Bogus, reached a record of 2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ , alongside of Bodine, for company as well as for sake of kinship.

Volunteer, not yet ready to abandon his claims to success in the same quarter, again came forward with St. Julien, a horse not yet beaten, and who attained a record almost in his first races of 2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ . All of the above were from mares by Sayer's Harry Clay.

And, to verify a prediction thrown out by me in my original chapter on Volunteer, as published in the *Live Stock Journal*, the big mare by Volunteer, whose dam was by Edward Everett and grandam by Harry Clay, has, since the first sheets of this chapter were written, made a record in 2:30 or better.

Finally, it appears that the fame of Messenger Duroc, whose name has been trumpeted more loudly than any horse in the land, rests on the produce of mares by this same Harry Clay. Prospero, Reform, Dame Trot, Elaine, Hogarth, Mansfield, Miranda and Marengo—all came from daughters of this Harry Clay. And what has Messenger Duroc to show outside of this list?

The value of these mares has rapidly advanced until now they are the most desirable of any in the country. Breeders too often accept the fact, but give no consideration to the reason. The fact is of value, but the reason lies at the true foundation of all value in breeding science.

The Clay cross in general was nothing but a Messenger strain, deriving some advantage, of course, from the increase of leverage and muscular conformation in the quarters from the mare Surry, the greater part of which has long since yielded to the superior force of the Messenger blood. That of Neaves' Clay was an exceedingly fine one, but not equal to Strader's Clay.

Sayer's Harry Clay was bred by Decatur Sayer, of Unionville, Orange county, New York. He was foaled in 1853; was a black, with white face and legs. He trotted a great many races and maintained a rank as one of the best trotters among the stallions of the Clay family, but adhered to their standard ideal of excellence, that of quitting when he got ready to do so, especially if hard pushed in a race. His record is 2:29.

He is the sire of Lady Ross, 2:29 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Surprise, 2:26; and of Black Harry Clay, sire of Bateman, 2:27.

His dam was by imported Bellfounder, and the cross gave him some of the same physical conformation which is secured to Hambletonian, but it also gave him a power to transmit this quality in a far greater degree than Hambletonian possessed it.

We have seen that Hambletonian did not succeed with mares closely and strongly in-bred in Messenger blood, as well as with those which had only a line or two of that blood, and that the reason was that the in-breeding of his own dam and sire in that blood gave it such a preponderance as to completely overpower and obliterate the Bellfounder element which in union with his Messenger blood constituted his greatness; that he excelled most when the equality of the two forces were best preserved.

In the case of Harry Clay the Bellfounder blood gained a better foothold than it did in Hambletonian, as is manifested in the produce of the two horses. Hambletonian breeds back to the Messenger, naturally enough, as that was the controlling element in him—three-quarters made up of separate and powerful lines directly from Messenger himself.

Harry Clay's sire was less potent than Abdallah, and there was no known reinforcement in the blood of his grandam. Besides, the ana-

tomical conformation of the Clays as derived from the mare Surry was such as would afford some encouragement, and even a reinforcement of the tendency toward a larger and more powerful rear leverage. The two forces thus tending in the same direction would combine, and thus in greater degree obtain the mastery over the short leverage of the Messenger blood. The result is, that Harry Clay breeds toward Bellfounder, while Hambletonian breeds toward Messenger. Hambletonian was, in his rear leverage, as before stated, 41 and 24, but breeds in the majority of cases back to 39 and 23.

Harry Clay breeds 24 and 40, and in some cases 41, and this reinforced by Hambletonian extends the line, in length. I have seen a mare by Hambletonian, dam by Harry Clay. She was  $15\frac{3}{4}$  hands in height, and her leverage was 24 and 42, and a thigh and quarter of great power.

These mares bred to sons of Hambletonian transmit to their produce this Bellfounder leverage.

Volunteer is 24 and 40, but Bodine is  $24\frac{1}{4}$  and 41, Messenger Duroc is 41, and Prospero is  $41\frac{1}{2}$ . Bateman, by a son of Sayer's Harry Clay, and from a daughter of Hambletonian, is 25 and 42. These facts will explain much that before was not clearly understood.

As I have before shown, the Abdallah and other branches of the Messenger family in this country had not reached the degree of excellence to which it was brought by the union with the Bellfounder blood, and this was in part owing to the improvement in leverage, a matter of physical conformation wrought by the Bellfounder element. But whenever that element was deficient or overpowered, there was a tendency to recede in the trotting powers of the horses bred. This Harry Clay element constituted the much needed reinforcement of that which was already introduced, but not in sufficient power. The lesson is an easy one and is highly instructive. It is perfectly demonstrative in itself, and is to-day the clearest and most conclusive testimony to the value of the Bellfounder blood in our American trotter. It is not the Clay cross as such. It is the blood and leverage of the Bellfounder blood, coming through this Clay channel, which is simply another line of Messenger blood.

Moreover, it is the Bellfounder blood in union with the Messenger blood in a channel where it has more force and scope than in that of Hambletonian, and is the one of all others with which to reinforce the feebler current coming through Hambletonian.

It is proper for me, in closing this sketch of the Bashaw or Clay

family, to refer to the wide dissemination of the blood coming through that line in its intermingling with the blood of other families. When we take into view the number of noted trotters that have crosses of this blood, they seem to rival any family we have ever produced. This is owing to causes and facts that are apparent. The Bellfounder family, in the direct line, has had no distinguished stallion since the days of the Norfolk Trotter, while the Bashaw or Clay family has been as noted for the number of its distinguished sires as it has been for its trotters: Andrew Jackson, Long Island Blackhawk, Henry Clay, Cassius M. Clay and all his sons, and the number has been immense and all noted for success. Cassius M. Clay only served in the stud eight years, and the distinction that usually attends old stallions from the better class of mares that their success attracts, was lost to him by his early death, yet he was the immediate progenitor of one of the largest families ever credited to any stallion. His greatness of quality may not have surpassed or even equaled some others, but the universal prevalence and wide dissemination of that quality gives him great value in the historical estimate of the growth and development of our trotting families. The controversies that have been waged, growing out of the alleged low breeding or lack of stamina of the mare Surry, have called out some lists, or tables, showing the position and records of horses having crosses of Clay or Bashaw blood at various periods of our turf history. While it is obvious that in many of these large credit, and often the chief credit, is due to the other families from which these animals have in part descended, yet these tables are not wholly devoid of interest or value.

I have caused a table to be prepared showing the number of performers in the 2:30 list coming from the Bashaw family, not Clays, in the direct or male line, and another list of the male descendants of Henry Clay, which will show the numbers and the great respectability of this excellent family. They are as follows:

## BASHAWS—NOT CLAYS.

	No. Performers.	Heats.	Time.
Bashaw (Green's), son of Vernol's Blackhawk.....	4	43	2:24
Black Bashaw (Blumberg's), son of Bay Bashaw.....	2	107	2:19
Black Dutchman, son of Doble's Black Bashaw.....	2	10	2:28
Jackson, son of Andrew Jackson.....	1	7	2:28 $\frac{1}{4}$
Jupiter, son of Long Island Blackhawk.....	2	17	2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$
Jupiter Abdallah, son of Jupiter.....	3	10	2:26
Carried forward.....	14	194	

	No. Performers.	Heats.	Time.
Brought forward .....	14	194	
Long Island Blackhawk, son of Andrew Jackson.....	1	11	2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mambrino Champion, son of Eureka.....	1	4	2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mohawk, son of Long Island Blackhawk .....	4	20	2:25
Nonpareil, " " " " .....	3	8	2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pearsall, son of Jupiter .....	1	4	2:29
Plow Boy, son of Long Island Blackhawk .....	1	1	2:30
Son of Kemble Jackson.....	1	3	2:29
Trojan, son of Jackson's Flying Cloud.....	1	9	2:24 $\frac{3}{4}$
Wapsie, son of Green's Bashaw .....	2	18	2:21
Washington Jackson, son of Andrew Jackson.....	1	6	2:27
Young Woful, son of Woful, by Long Island Blackhawk	1	3	2:28
	31	281	

## DESCENDANTS OF HENRY CLAY.

	No. Performers.	Heats.	Time.
Alexander, son of Geo. M. Patchen Jr.....	1	7	2:27 $\frac{1}{4}$
American Clay, son of Strader's C. M. Clay.....	3	18	2:26
Andy Johnson, son of Henry Clay.....	1	1	2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$
Blue Colt, said to be son of Geo. M. Patchen.....	1	3	2:27
Cassius M. Clay, son of Henry Clay.....	1	34	2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$
" (Amos'), son of Cassius M. Clay.....	1	150	2:16 $\frac{1}{2}$
" (Ballard's), son of Jones' C. M. Clay 1st	3	10	2:27
" (Strader's), son of Cassius M. Clay ...	1	2	2:23 $\frac{3}{4}$
" (Neaves'), " " " " ....	3	3	2:25
Charles E. Loew, son of Geo. M. Patchen.....	1	3	2:27
Fisher's, " " " " .....	1	16	2:26
Genet, H. W., son of Godfrey's Patchen.....	1	3	2:27
Geo. M. Patchen, son of Cassius M. Clay.....	4	81	2:18 $\frac{1}{4}$
Geo. M. Patchen Jr., son of Geo. M. Patchen.....	3	36	2:20 $\frac{1}{4}$
Godfrey's Patchen, " " " " .....	6	90	2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$
Harry Clay (Sayer's), son of Neaves' C. M. Clay.....	3	32	2:26
Henry Clay, son of Andrew Jackson .....	1	1	2:30
Henry B. Patchen, son of Geo. M. Patchen.....	2	8	2:25 $\frac{1}{4}$
Magic, son of American Clay.....	1	4	2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$
Montauk, son of Cassius M. Clay.....	1	2	2:29
New Jersey, son of Geo. M. Patchen.....	1	1	2:29
Smith's Patchen, " " " " .....	1	12	2:24
Son of Geo. M. Patchen.....	1	1	2:29
Union Clay, son of.....	1	5	2:25
Victor, son of Cassius M. Clay.....	1	1	2:30
	44	524	

The first list shows thirty-one performers, and two hundred and eighty-one heats in 2:30 or better, and the lowest time record of 2:19;



while the Clay family proper has to its credit forty-four performers, and five hundred and twenty-four heats in 2:30 or better, and a time record of 2:16½; and the aggregate record of the whole family shows seventy-five performers, and eight hundred and five heats in 2:30 or better.

The ability to transmit the trotting and improving quality adheres to the family. There appears to be no retrograde as we advance from the original source. I have shown in a previous chapter, with regard to the Diomed blood, that no stallion strong in this blood can retain his capacity as a trotting sire; that of the descendants of Seely's American Star, no grandson has produced a trotter in the 2:30 list, while the descendants of Henry Clay bring out performers in the 2:25 list in the fourth generation, and in the sixth from Young Bashaw.

The great age to which several members of the family have lived—Henry Clay reaching the age of thirty—and the large number of stallions in their ranks in each generation, have given the blood a wide dissemination, and at this day, crossed with the other trotting bloods, the Bashaws and Clays maintain their position in the front rank, notwithstanding the surpassing ability and success of Abdallah and Hambletonian as sires. While the other line of blood has had no stallion the equal of either of these, the number and great respectability of the Bashaw and Clay stallions have given the family a great and well merited prominence.

## CHAPTER XX.

### SMUGGLER.

SMUGGLER, the property of Col. H. S. Russell, of Milton, Mass., was foaled in Ohio, in 1866, and is now past twelve years old. He was bred by Mr. John M. Morgan, then of Franklin county, Ohio, and near to the capital of that State. His sire was Blanco, a son of Iron's Cadmus, and he a son of Cadmus, the thoroughbred son of American Eclipse, from Die Vernon, a daughter of Ball's Florizel, a son of imp. Diomed. The dam of Smuggler was by Blind Tuckahoe; second dam by Jones' Oscar; third dam by Shepard's Consul. Such is the pedigree given to the public; but I have no such familiarity with these families as to enable me to speak on authority. It has also been said that the dam of Blanco was by the same Blind Tuckahoe. By reference to other members of this Cadmus family, it will be seen that the elements of speed and those high qualities that mark Smuggler, have come out elsewhere, thus depriving him of the character of an isolated or casual instance of superior attainments coming from an obscure channel. The original Cadmus was bred in the following manner:

By American Eclipse,

First dam Die Vernon, by Ball's Florizel;

Second dam by Oscar;

Third dam by Hero;

Fourth dam by imported Gabriel;

Fifth dam Active, by Chatham;

Sixth dam Shepherdess, by imported Slim;

Seventh dam Shrewsbury, by imported Figure;

Eighth dam Thistle, by imported Dove;

Ninth dam Stella, by imported Othello;

Tenth dam imported Selima, by Godolphin Arabian.

He was, in 1840, owned in Warren county, Ohio, and there produced Iron's Cadmus, from a reputed daughter of Brunswick, a son of Sumter. This horse—Iron's Cadmus—was large and very powerful, with

heavy fore and hind quarters, and was a pacer. Cadmus, the sire, was taken to Canada, in 1842, by Alfio De Grasse, and was kept until his death, in 1852, in the vicinity of Toronto. While in that region he produced a mare that became the dam of Toronto, by St. Lawrence. Toronto was taken to Kentucky, and owned by Col. R. M. Johnson, Jr., and left a produce, small in number, but which will, and do now, hold an important place in the pedigrees of some of the best animals before the breeding and trotting public. This horse had all the Cadmus characteristics.

Iron's Cadmus, from a mare by Shakespeare—probably a son of Shakespeare by Virginian—produced the celebrated white-faced and white-legged pacing mare Pocahontas, and she, by Ethan Allen, produced Young Pocahontas, the trotting mare owned by Robert Bonner, and greatly distinguished as a mare of speed and trotting quality.

Old Pocahontas had a record in 2:17½, and could pace a mile in faster time. Iron's Cadmus, from a mare by Davis' Flying Morgan, produced a horse called Flying Cadmus, still living, and lately owned by Mr. Vedder, of Lake county, Ill. This was a horse having all of the Cadmus and none of the Morgan characteristics. He was a dark chestnut, with the family blaze in his face, very heavy in the forequarter, and almost immense in the hindquarter, with very powerful hocks and limbs. He both paced and trotted. I now own one of his daughters, the dam of which was by an in-bred Morgan horse, and notwithstanding the double cross of Morgan blood, she does not show the slightest resemblance to the Morgans, but is a rich red chestnut, with a light mane and tail, a broad and irregular blaze in the face, and the exact image, in form and carriage, of Smuggler. No daughter or sister of that horse can appear more exactly like him, and, in matter of gait, all beholders agree that such an unbroken four-year-old is not often to be seen. As before stated, Iron's Cadmus also produced Blanco, the sire of Smuggler. The Tuckahoe family also belonged in Ohio, and seem to have had a thoroughbred ancestry, and some pacing tendencies. The horse Blind Tuckahoe is said to have been by Herod Tuckahoe, and he by old Tuckahoe, owned by Gov. Ridgely, of Maryland. Blind Tuckahoe's dam is also said to have been by Diomed, a grandson of imp. Diomed. I give these pedigrees as I have found them, but can not authenticate them.

When Smuggler was two years old, his breeder, Mr. Morgan, took

him, along with his dam, to Kansas. He was a young horse of great strength, and was early inducted into the pioneer service of a Kansas farmer. His muscular form was rendered available in drawing the plow and other farm work. The Cadmus family have all been noted for their easy saddle gaits. It may be safe to say that all of the descendants of Iron's Cadmus take readily to the pacing and racking or single-foot manner of going. Many of them are natural pacers. Smuggler, at first, went in this way; and possessing an organism that suggested speed, he soon became a favorite saddle horse. His inclination to go fast, and with a powerful open gait, persuaded his owner that he was capable of being developed into a road horse of some distinction. Not being a trainer, he rode the stallion to Olathe, where two young trainers, Messrs. Marvin and Mitchell, were engaged in handling some trotters on a track. He suggested that his horse had some talent for the business, and proposed to apprentice him to the trainers. The proposition was finally acceded to by Mr. Marvin and his associate, the price of the tuition agreed upon being a one-half interest in the future trotter when developed. This was in the latter half of August, 1872, when Smuggler was six years old. He proved an apt scholar, and, in the early part of November following, he was given a trial, in which it is stated he trotted a mile in 2:30. During the second season's training, such was the proficiency of the pupil, that, in the latter part of July, 1873, he trotted a mile, over the Olathe track, in 2:19 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and was soon thereafter sold by his schoolmasters and breeder for the sum of \$13,000. The purchaser soon after took him to the city of New York, and the following, taken from the *Spirit of the Times*, supplies the then current and subsequent account of the horse :

In a private trial, in July, 1873, on the Olathe (Kansas) track, he trotted one mile in 2:19 $\frac{3}{4}$ . This extraordinary performance created a great sensation in trotting circles throughout the country, and Smuggler's name was in every turfman's mouth. His owner, eager to realize his value, brought him East, and on August 28, 1873, he was given a private trial, in the presence of a few prominent owners of trotting stock, at Prospect Park, L. I. By accurate and experienced timers, he was timed one mile in 2:19 $\frac{3}{4}$ , one mile in 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and one mile in 2:21, having trotted the last half of the third mile in 1:09. Immediately after this performance, Col. Russell purchased him for the alleged price of \$40,000. Willing to give the public a chance of witnessing his speed, he entered him the following summer in the \$10,000 purse for all stallions, at the Buffalo meeting, and on August 5th, in this race, he made his public *debut* on the trotting turf. His opponents were the "Black Whirlwind" Thomas Jefferson, the fleet stallion Mambrino Gift, Joe Brown and Pilot Temple.

Smuggler was quite a green horse, knowing nothing about his business, and his driver was afraid to score in company with the other horses. Owing to these combined causes, he got off several lengths in the rear in the first heat; but, as soon as he got his ponderous but powerful machinery in motion, he out-trotted all his fleet opponents, and, amid the ringing cheers of the excited multitude, won the heat, by a length, from Thomas Jefferson, in  $2:22\frac{1}{4}$ . Again did he get off fully eight lengths behind in the second heat, and was as far in the rear after half a mile had been covered; but then the mighty bay began to exhibit his resistless speed and powerful stride, and, cutting down his rivals in front one after another, collared the game and fleet Mambrino Gift, who, apparently, had the race in hand. The next moment Smuggler had passed him, and dashed under the wire, a winner by a length, amid thunders of applause, in the reduced time of  $2:20\frac{3}{4}$ —his exact time from wire to wire, as taken by watches in the judges' stand, being  $2:18\frac{3}{4}$ . In the third heat, bad driving and a wretched start militated against Smuggler, and it was a hopeless heat for him from the word "go," finishing, fifth and last, to Mambrino Gift in  $2:22\frac{1}{4}$ . The fourth heat was still more disastrous, for, tired and exhausted with needless scoring, the grand horse labored hopelessly along, and was distanced, in  $2:23\frac{1}{4}$ , by Thomas Jefferson, who also won the next two heats and race in  $2:26\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $2:28\frac{1}{2}$ . Although defeated, Smuggler was not disgraced; for a green horse, he had trotted the second heat faster than any stallion had ever done before. In his next public appearance, at Utica, August 12, 1874, one week after Buffalo, he was beaten by Fleety Gold dust, being drawn after the third heat, as he was quite out of order. At Springfield, August 18th, he won the \$4,000 purse in five heats, beating ten opponents, the fastest heat being  $2:26\frac{3}{4}$ . He was beaten at the same meeting by Kansas Chief in the \$5,000 purse, being distanced in the second heat, in consequence of his bad breaking, in the slow time of 2:29. At Mystic Park, Boston, September 2d, 1874, he was beaten by Lucille Gold dust, in  $2:25\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $2:22\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $2:22$  and  $2:23$ , after he had won the third heat in the fastest time of the race. But the latent powers and amazing speed of the mighty bay stallion were gradually being developed, and on September 15th, 1874, over the Mystic Park, Boston, he attained the height of his fame by winning the Great Stallion Purse of \$10,000 for the championship of America, beating Phil Sheridan, Henry W. Genet, Commonwealth, Mambrino Gift and Vermont Abdallah, in  $2:23$ ,  $2:23$  and  $2:20$ , the time of the last heat being the fastest on record, and equaling that made by Mambrino Gift, at Rochester, the month previous.

In 1875, on the 4th of September, he opened his campaign, at Mystic Park, in a race with Nettie by Hambletonian, which he won, trotting four heats, his time being  $2:29\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $2:28\frac{1}{2}$  and  $2:25\frac{1}{2}$ —the third heat was won by Nettie, in  $2:22\frac{1}{2}$ .

On the 16th of September, at Hartford, Conn., in a race against Sensation, he won in three heats, in  $2:22\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $2:21\frac{1}{2}$  and  $2:22$ ; and, on the 30th of September, at Beacon Park, he trotted a race against the stallion Thomas Jefferson, which he won, in  $2:25\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $2:28$  and  $2:40$ ,

Jefferson having been drawn after the second heat. In 1876, at Belmont Park, Philadelphia, he trotted his first race against Judge Fullerton, as follows: first heat he won, in 2:17½, the second was a dead heat, in 2:18, the succeeding two were won by Smuggler, in 2:17 and 2:20—not a single break by either horse in the entire race. Thus he opened his brilliant campaign of 1876.

At Cleveland, on the 27th of July, he encountered, for the first time, the renowned Queen of the Trotting Turf, Goldsmith Maid; also Lucille Golddust, Bodine and Judge Fullerton. Goldsmith Maid won the first and second heats, in 2:15½ and 2:17¼, and the next three were won by Smuggler, in 2:16¼, 2:19¾ and 2:17½. A further reference to this third heat is made further on.

On the 3d day of August, at Buffalo, he encountered the same list of opponents, and lost the race, being placed fifth in the first heat, and distanced in the second. On the 10th of August, at Rochester, he encountered Judge Fullerton, Bodine and Lucille Golddust, and won in three heats, in 2:15¾, 2:18 and 2:19½. On the 25th of August, he was distanced the first heat, owing, doubtless, to one of his characteristic breaks. On the 1st of September, at Hartford, Conn., he trotted a second race against Goldsmith Maid, Fullerton and Bodine being in the race also. He won the first two heats in 2:15¼ and 2:17, and made a dead heat in 2:16¾, and then lost the race to Goldsmith Maid, in 2:17¼, 2:18 and 2:19, but trotted a close second all the way through. He trotted against the same field at Springfield, Mass., September 9th, but did not win a single heat. Later in the season, he trotted two races against Great Eastern, but failed to equal his previous time, and was beaten in each race. In the first of these, Smuggler won the first heat in 2:23; and in consequence of what the report called a "stereotyped standstill break," he was distanced in the second heat in 2:24½. In the second race he lost the first heat in 2:21, and broke badly in the second and third, and was beaten in 2:24½ and 2:25.

The features of his trotting exploits that are most noticeable are the fact that he can at times display such most extraordinary speed and endurance, equal to any demands that are made upon him, and the readiness with which, at other times, he loses his balance and footing, and in consequence of his uncontrollable tendency to break into a gallop, can not be kept at a trotting gait. It is thus he loses his races. He has had no opponent that could equal him in speed; but if forced to a break, he can not be brought to a catch again until the race is lost. This is generally the result of his unsteadiness.

Smuggler is a dark bay or rich brown horse, with a large stripe or blaze the entire length of his face. He is about 15 hands  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height, but, having high withers, he has been called 16 hands high. I have only the statement of his trainer on this point, and suppose it is accurate. He has a very striking resemblance to the great racing stallion Longfellow, being at this time almost exactly the same color. He is not so tall nor so lengthy in appearance as Longfellow, but carries very much of the latter's expression of grim resolution and conscious power. His barrel does not seem to be long, but he has an appearance of length from the coupling to the croup, and also that of length of quarter and limb from hip to hock. His exact measure, in this respect, is, from hip to hock  $40\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and length of thigh  $24\frac{1}{4}$  inches (that given in a former chapter, from memory, is not quite correct); this measurement, and that of his forelegs, being the only ones taken by myself. His hips are somewhat prominent, but not so much so as to appear unsightly, and his frame is so massive and powerful as to call for some boldness of outline. He must be a horse of great weight, as he has an appearance of extreme solidity in every part. He is compact and muscular in every particular. Take the entire horse, from the forelegs backward, he is evenly made, and as powerfully built as any I have ever seen, and every part and member, both in bone and muscle, lever and carcass, seem exactly adapted to the most perfect action at great range of stroke, and with perfect precision of motion. His length of limb from hip to hock—his long and immensely powerful quarter, are in exact and proper proportion with his powerful thigh and gaskin for a long, true and steady stroke, without a single false motion, or the slightest appearance of hobbling or wabbling in his gait. I had heard that his action behind was uneven and unsteady. It is far from this. It is of the powerful and demonstrative kind, full of energy and force, but even and precise in every stroke. He spreads his feet out behind wider than his hocks. He does not lift his hocks high, but sends his feet far out behind, and apparently as high in the air as his hocks; not strictly so, but, in a degree, he does so to appearance. His long leverage of  $40\frac{1}{2}$  inches from hip to hock enables him to handle his long thigh; and yet such a length of thigh as  $24\frac{1}{4}$  inches can not fail to insure a wide, open gait. He brings his hind feet forward, and sets them, not exactly under his body, but alongside and outside of the places marked by his forefeet, with great reach of limb, and great precision of stroke, and with a power so terrific, that it is absolutely impossible to describe it. The

trotting power of the horse seems to be in his exceedingly muscular body, that works in perfect harmony with his quarters and limbs, and in the exact adaptation and muscular harmony of his hindquarters. His stifles do not spread out as wide as either of the two families described in a former chapter. They spread wide enough for his purposes; but his thigh not being too long for the length of his limb and quarter, he has no difficulty in folding his members with a rapidity and a precision that ought to go far toward converting these gentlemen who are all the time demanding such excessively wide stifle-action, and such elevation of the hocks. Let me say just here, and finally, that it is of no value, except for display in the open lot or field, that a horse lift his hocks so high in trotting. I want him to send them back underneath the sulky as far as he can reach them, but do not want him to elevate them in the face of his driver. I want them to propel like the eccentric of a locomotive, rather than revolve like the crank of a great steamboat.

The head of Smuggler is a plain one, having only a slight Roman deviation from that of a first-class thoroughbred of the larger type, and hung on a long neck that curves slightly; but in action, while trotting fast, he reaches his head far out and lays his ears back, the top of his head hardly appearing higher than the level of the withers. It was in this way he came, at Cleveland, after being held in a pocket until within one thousand feet of the wire, when, having dropped far enough behind, he came with a grim desperation, and a speed that can not readily be forgotten by the thousands who saw it. His fleet-footed and never-faltering opponent, the victor in a hundred trials—the Queen of 2:14—was already thirty-five feet ahead of him. With a gathering of resources never, perhaps, held by any other, and a rate of speed never equaled on the trotting turf, he made for the front. There can be no doubt, I think, that he trotted, for six or eight hundred feet, at the rate of a two-minute gait. He trotted then as if he knew he could, and would, win it; and in his very eye there was the look of win it or perish in the attempt. Woe to the animal or vehicle that should come between him and the end of that race. His speed was terrific, his momentum was fearful, and his stroke as steady and true as ever beheld. He won the heat, and for once the little queen was vanquished, and the vast crowd that witnessed the contest was fairly carried away by the excitement. His very appearance was a sort of magnetism that electrified the thousands that were present.

In the early history of this horse we heard much of his breaking



and his unsteadiness, and we had much theorizing as to the cause of this. We were told by some, that he lacked in trotting instinct, that his brain was not level, and that he was of such an unsteady temperament as would forever stand in the way of great success as a trotter. I never saw him until his appearance at the Cleveland meeting, in 1876, and had then no opportunity of inspecting him beyond two or three minutes, except as he appeared in the race, and then only from my seat in the grand stand. So far as mental traits could be discerned he was the most tractable and steady horse, in brain and temper, that ever appeared on a race course. He possesses a nerve organism of the highest order. He entered into the spirit of that contest as eagerly, and apparently with as intelligent an appreciation of what was expected of him, and of what was within his reach, and of the prodigious effort required to accomplish the task, as the skillful brain that directed him. He was as thoroughly under control, as level and true, in all that could be called trotting impulses, as any horse on that course. He seemed to be the highest production, in the matter of equine superiority, that had yet been achieved. His mental composition, his quality of muscle and fibre, and his anatomical conformation, so far as I have described it, seemed as near the highest quality attainable as any I have ever seen. Nevertheless, I saw then enough in his form to satisfy my mind that there was a cause for his unsteadiness that could not be removed—that there was a lack of balance in his organism that might be kept largely under control by skillful training and constant practice in high condition, but that the cause could not be removed, and he would, eventually, succumb to the disadvantages resulting from this defective conformation—for such it is. The fault lies in the forelegs and forequarters. He is too heavy in front. A perpendicular line, drawn from the centre of the arm upward, leaves a large part of the weight of carcass in front; he is very heavy in his shoulder, breast and that part of the neck under the collar. Less weight in front and more of it further back, and he would trot with an easier balance. When forced to a break he would not gallop so high in the air; he could skip along and regain his feet if his forelegs were of a proportion that also came to his aid. But in his case there were two defects that both worked in the same direction, and both had a tendency to make him fly from the trot and go into the high gallop as the easiest way of keeping his feet when going with the velocity he attains. This weight of carcass in front was one; the other, and the great

defect of this horse, is his proportion of front cannon and forearm. His front cannon measures 12 inches, and his forearm  $20\frac{1}{2}$ . Take one inch from his cannon and add it to his forearm, and he would be in front, as behind, the perfection of poise and the fastest trotter the world has yet seen. I inspected Smuggler for a brief moment in his box, just before and when ready for his great race at Cleveland. I had at once a clear conception of what would be his foreleg-action on the track. Fullerton was in the same race, and the foreleg-action of the two is somewhat alike, only differing in degree. Fullerton lifts his knees and bends them much, throwing his feet out slightly, and bringing his feet to the ground with a sharp stroke, too severe for him to stand a long campaign without evincing some degree of imperfection in his legs. But Smuggler far exceeds him in this respect; he lifts his knees, apparently, higher than his elbow, and advances his forefeet *but very little*; and the violence with which he brings them to the ground is shown in his hammering off two shoes in one race—and such shoes as he wears! They began with thirty-two ounce shoes in front and eight ounce shoes behind. Does any one ask why they put such an enormous weight on his forefeet? It is because such weight is requisite to keep him level and perfectly balanced, otherwise he would break, would not hold to the trot, would gallop or trot unsteadily. Why not put the extra weight on his brain, or ballast up his instinct? The answer is obvious. His brain is all right—as level as ever carried a trotter to the front—this defect is not in any lack of trotting instinct. His forelegs are so constructed that he has not reach enough in his forearms. His reach is so short, and his pastern and cannon so long, that he can not send his feet far enough, and move them fast enough, to keep pace with the terrific speed of his body and rear propellers. He goes with such fearful velocity and momentum that if he fails of a single step in front his balance is lost—he is gone, and must do one of two things, fall prostrate and headlong on the ground, or throw out both front feet together and catch level on both at the same time; but this is a gallop. Once in the gallop, this same defect, together with his weight of carcass in front, causes him to gallop high in front; so that he can not catch again until his rate of speed is greatly reduced. All horses whose forelegs are built on this model, which is that of the thoroughbred, gallop high in front. On the other hand, those that are built on a proper mean between too short and too long, such as Goldsmith Maid, Albemarle and Rarus, glide along smoothly—the

front legs can trot as fast as the hind ones—and if they break, it is a skip and glide along, half trotting, half skipping, and catching when they like, with no loss of speed either way. This is not brain nor instinct; it is leverage—the power of mechanism and the result of anatomical conformation. His front conformation is against him, his great trotting is in spite of it, and the result of his complete mastery, as a trained and skilled gymnast, over the disadvantage under which he labors. The effect of this detriment is greater at one time than at another. When out of practice or condition it is very serious; when on full work and up to the highest mark of condition, with the aid of his big shoes, he is master against odds.

In forming a correct estimate of the extraordinary organism and high trotting quality of this horse, reference must be had to the perfection of his action, the immense power he displays, and the wonderful speed he attains in the face of disadvantages and natural obstacles to be overcome, such as those above described; he is simply prodigious. The success which attended him in his recent campaign was all that could have been expected. Fullerton and all the horses of the American Star and Everett families having a similar conformation, can be so trained and brought to high condition as to be able, now and then, to make an extraordinary race. Mountain Boy could show more speed than Lady Thorn; but a long campaign of severe contests puts the defective machinery to a test too severe for its endurance; it can perform prodigies, but can not last forever. The strain of being forced to carry shoes of such enormous weight can not be endured for a lengthy campaign, extraordinary though the animal, as in this case, may be. Those feet and legs can not be expected to endure such usage. Hence, if he should be used up in his forelegs long before any infirmity is discoverable elsewhere, it would be no more than we should expect with entire confidence, and detracts nothing from the otherwise great superiority of the animal under consideration.

The question of his value as a breeding stallion presents itself to the mind of the careful and enterprising breeder. Is such an organism of value, and will it be so far successful as to be regarded as an acquisition to the breeders of the trotting horse in this country? I answer both of these in the affirmative. His extraordinary qualities will be in demand and will find place for their use and development, and at the same time fields in which the shortcomings of his organism can be supplied. In the matter of crossing trotting families of

diverse gaits, more harm is done when the defective action is behind than when it is in front. The reason of this is obvious. Front action is mostly in right line, and is only a matter of degree—of excess or deficiency; while there are so many forms and ways of going behind that a cross of one sometimes spoils, instead of amending, the other. His action behind is superb—one that can be engrafted on any family of trotters we have with good results.

As regards action of the forelegs, we have seen families that will bear some modification without detriment in the precise direction in which he is faulty. The Volunteers and Almonts all have room for an advance in that direction. While I do not join in the common wail against these two families, as being greatly deficient in this particular, I may say that a little of it will not hurt them, and they can be crossed with this stallion with entire success. I do not find this to be a peculiarity that fastens to all having Cadmus blood. My own mare above referred to, while she is almost identical with Smuggler behind, is about 11 and 21 inches in front, and has as handsome, far-reaching action as I know of in any animal. Not being able to say whence she derives this modification in her anatomy, I am unable to say how far it proves that this conformation is not *per se* a Cadmus peculiarity. I think, to avoid the force of this objection, care will be requisite in the selection of mares to couple with this stallion. I would, of course, avoid those of American Star or Henry blood, and all others of a similar conformation.

The foregoing sketch of Smuggler was written and published at the close of his campaign in 1876. I prefer to reproduce it unchanged, as his career since that date has so fully verified all that was then said of him. He made several races, occasionally showing fast time, but was not able to endure the constant training required for keeping him in balance. He was liable to trot below 2:16, or to be distanced in the race, with about four chances to one in favor of the latter. He is now in the stud in the State of Kentucky, and is probably entirely withdrawn from the turf. His career has been a very notable one, and the wonderful qualities he possesses will in many different forms and channels doubtless be perpetuated.

I have desired, as in other cases, to present a list of his sons that give indications that they will represent the great excellences by which he has been distinguished, but the list has not been furnished, and I have not the means of giving the same. The chief benefits to the American trotter at large, will be derived through his female descendants.

His daughters, from the best stallions of other families—the Royal Georges and the Hambletonians, or from Governor Sprague—will give us trotters of great speed and better balance than the original.

And having said this much fairly toward the horse and his owner, and faithfully, also, toward my readers, I dismiss him in the belief that the American trotter will be advanced in speed and character by the high qualities and commanding superiority displayed by this remarkable stallion, and feeling, also, that his character and make-up furnish an interesting and highly instructive lesson to the intelligent and inquiring breeder.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### GOVERNOR SPRAGUE.

THE black stallion Governor Sprague was foaled on the 24th day of February, 1871, in the State of Rhode Island, and was bred by Col. Amasa Sprague, of that State. His sire was the stallion Rhode Island, previously called Dan Rice. His dam was Belle Brandon, by Hambletonian, and his grandam by Bacchus. His sire, Rhode Island, a brown stallion, foaled about 1847, as is stated, was bred in Ohio, and was by Whitehall, from a mare by Nigger Baby, a horse bred in Virginia. His grandam is said to have been a Jersey mare, bred by Mr. Manchester.

This is the account as taken from the *Trotting Register*, vol. I; and the same authority informs us that Whitehall was bred by Mr. Manchester, of Whitehall, N. Y., and was by North American, a son of Sir Walter, by Hickory, the thoroughbred; that the dam of Whitehall was by Cock of the Rock, and he was by Duroc, from Romp, by imported Messenger. It may not be unworthy of notice, also, that the dam of North American is said to have been a fast pacing mare of unknown blood.

In the blood composition of this horse Rhode Island we fail to find any lines that connect with noted trotting ancestral currents, except that which comes through the dam of his own sire, she being of the Duroc-Messenger union, an unfailing source of the richest trotting blood we have yet reached. The grandam of Rhode Island, the so-called Jersey mare—if by that is meant a mare bred in the State of New Jersey—may embrace lines deep and rich that are not described to us in the faint and shadowy outlines of the pedigree that is given.

I have thus gone through all the ancestral lines that have been placed before us, for the purpose of learning the source or sources from which this horse Rhode Island inherited his trotting qualities, which were of a character that do not come by chance or accident;

and we take it that the doctrine of inheritance, of which we hear so much now and then, of late, is not the exclusive property, by patent or copyright, of any one.

I have but little information in regard to the raising, training or handling of this horse Rhode Island, besides that which appears in the record of his public performances on the trotting turf. At the age of seven years he won a race at Cincinnati, in three heats, in 2:42½, 2:40, 2:37. The next year, 1865, he won a race in 2:37½, 2:28¾. In 1866 his record was 2:36, 2:32, 2:36, in one race; 2:38½, 2:35½, 2:39, in another, a race of four heats; in another, in the first, fourth and fifth heats, his record was 2:32½, 2:39, 2:37; and in another, of five heats, in the second, fourth and fifth heats, his record was 2:28¾, 2:29½, 2:27½, winning against Lucy. In 1867, at the age of ten years, he appears in one race, with a record of 2:36, 2:37½, 2:34. In 1868, when eleven years old, he appeared in three races; the first with a record of 2:28½, 2:31¼, 2:32½; the second in 2:32½, 2:34, 2:35; and the third a record of 2:33¼, 2:35¾, 2:43. In 1869, at the age of twelve years, he trotted and won in three heats, in 2:30, 2:29, 2:28½. In 1868 he won two heats of a race, in 2:25, 2:23½, against George Wilkes and American Girl. In a race against Goldsmith Maid and American Girl, he won the third and fourth heats in 2:26, 2:26, and the Maid won the fifth in 2:26½, and the first in 2:24½, and the second in 2:24¾—his best record attained being 2:23½.

This record is notable for three features which, in connection with the subject now under consideration, are worthy of special notice: first, the number of heats trotted in each race, showing that he had unfaltering competitors, and unfailing capacity in himself to the end of a protracted contest; secondly, the even and uniform rate of speed which he displayed at all times; and, thirdly, the age at which he maintained his superiority as a trotter in company with the most noted trotters that have distinguished the American trotting turf. The following account of Rhode Island is given by a well known driver and trainer, who drove him in his latest and most important contests:

Rhode Island was a dark brown, almost black, stood 16 hands high, and had a very heavy neck, with a medium-sized head. When he was in trotting condition he weighed about 1,100 pounds. We knew just how much he weighed every time he trotted. When he was fat he weighed nearly 1,400 pounds. He was a very stylish-going horse, and very fine gaited, and was a nice breaker for a large horse. He was a good gentleman's road horse, not afraid of anything. His legs were very good, pretty heavy boned and short. The weakest point about him was his hind ankles. When he had

trotted several heats they would begin to tell on him, and that was the only place he ever showed a bit of tire in his life. He had a very fine disposition, and was a very hearty eater. I used to feed him ten quarts of oats, and from two to three quarts of corn when he was in training. He was a horse that sweated very easily, and we hardly ever put any clothes on him, except a short hood on his neck. He was a horse that needed considerable work so as to keep him in condition, for he would make fat very fast. Always two days before a trot, I gave him a mule and repeat in from '39 to '35. That generally took the wire edge off of him, so that he would n't be very rank the day of the race, otherwise he was hot-headed. He was a terrible horse to go away from the score, but he did n't pull an ounce on the bits after he got started, and got fairly agoing. I used a very large snaffle-bit on him, for he had a very wide mouth, and always drove him in an open bridle. He wore no boots except on his hind ankles, to protect him from a habit he had of just touching himself in the joint, just a kind of speedy cut on his shin. He wore a shoe weighing a pound and three ounces on his forward feet, and, when taking his work, a pound and five ounces on his hind feet, but when going in a race I used to change the hind shoes to nine ounces.

The first race I drove him in was October 1, 1867, when he beat Leviathan in three straight heats in 2:36, 2:37½, 2:34. Just before we went to Buffalo I timed Rhode Island on the Fashion track, mile and repeat. The first mile he went in 2:22¼, and repeated it in 2:20½. At the same time we timed Fearnought in 2:24, and repeated him in 2:21¼.

On the 27th of October, 1868, I trotted Rhode Island on the Fashion Course, against American Girl and George Wilkes. In that race he was a very fat horse; he was seventy-five pounds too heavy to trot. The first heat he took in 2:25. John Lovett drove American Girl, I believe. I think I took the lead from the start, and, in fact, I don't think I was headed in the first or second heats. In the third heat my horse broke, and lost it. The second heat was trotted in 2:23½. He tired a little in the third heat, and kept on tiring after that, for he was too fat to trot. I think Rhode Island was too large for a successful campaigner on the track. About 15¼ hands is a good height for a trotter; and the weight should be from 750 to 850 pounds, in my opinion. Hopeful weighed 882 pounds when he trotted his great race at Hartford this season. Sensation about the same. Lady Litchfield weighed, in trotting condition, 745 pounds; Nellie Walton weighed 825 pounds in trotting fix; Orient weighed 977 pounds at Hartford; and these are fair averages for the best trotters. Rhode Island was too heavy in his body for his hind ankles. He had as good a leg as any horse above his hock, but he stood back on his ankles like a running horse, and he would always tremble in his ankles after a heat. He was a good horse in a race for three or four heats—as far as he could go. If he was n't over-matched he would go four good heats, and hold out well.

Rhode Island died at the age of eighteen years, from a sudden attack of acute inflammation of the bowels, but was regarded as in the prime of life and vigor at the time of the fatal attack. He has elsewhere been described as a compact and evenly built horse, of



vigorous and muscular mould, that trotted with an even steady stroke, neither reaching far out in front, nor spreading wide apart behind, but more noted for the precision and regularity of his stride than for the remarkable display of great apparent trotting action which is so attractive to many amateurs.

In addition to all this, he is described by those who knew him well, as a horse of a highly organized temperament—that quality of nerve that comes from and accompanies high breeding, whether in the Arab of the desert, the thoroughbred racer, or the ever speedy trotter. But, with all this, he was what might be styled in a man, one of cool temper—a level head, quick and clear to think, and prompt to act, but so evenly balanced as never to get off his understanding—a good quality in horse or man, and essential to winning the race on the track, or in the battle of life.

Such was Rhode Island, the sire of Governor Sprague. His dam, Belle Brandon, was, perhaps, noted for qualities of equal excellence, and also such as exactly suited the sire from which she produced her now distinguished son. She was by Hambletonian, and her dam is stated to have been by Bacchus.

From her own sire she would and did derive a physical conformation not much unlike that of Rhode Island as regards evenness of proportion; and, in addition, a nerve or brain organism well calculated to reproduce the exact and wonderful harmony that is one of the distinguishing features of her level-headed son. She was, herself, a mare of positive individual excellence, and was a trotter of merit, having been driven as the mate of Sprague's Hambletonian for some years; and there is a sort of repute following her that she was able to trot in 2:30 or better, but I have no authentic information on which this can be based. She was undoubtedly a very superior breeder. By Volunteer, who is himself a remote Duroc-Messenger, of even and uniform physical conformation, not differing greatly from that of Rhode Island, this same mare produced the young mare Amy, that has attained a record of 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

To those who have studied the physical and nerve organism of the Hambletonian family, it will be apparent that there was no great disparity in the physical conformation, or the nerve traits, or mental organism, or temperament of the sire and dam of the stallion under consideration. He is in no sense a cross-bred animal—in no respect the result of opposing and counteracting forces—in blood, mental or physical traits. In his make-up he is entirely homogeneous, and, in this respect, differs from much of our American breeding.

I here repeat, *in verbis*, part of what I said in Chapter I, on the subject of cross-breeding. Nothing is so common as a pedigree parading crosses of all the noted trotting families, which the owner exhibits with entire confidence that it embraces all the excellences that have appeared in our past or present experience in breeding trotters. The utter failure of the colt, either as a trotter, or a reproducer of trotting excellence, is at length reached, but only serves to impress his breeder with the profound conviction that the whole business is a matter of chance—a lottery of the most absolute uncertainty. He is assured by some of the learned ones that trotters go in all forms—and he overlooks the important fact that they also go in all sorts of ways, as the legitimate and inevitable result of their multifarious forms—and that these ways of going, and these diverse forms are the legitimate and inevitable result of physical conformation, and nerve or mental traits that are not only dissimilar, but often operate in dissimilar ways in breeding—often operate against each other—are often inharmonious in their combinations, and, as a consequence, in their results. Hence, the end of his great hopes and wonderful expectations is a sad and unprofitable failure.

We cross-breed too much, and do not sufficiently study the question of harmony in the physical and nerve traits that we combine in our efforts to produce the trotter. That one conformation or one mental organism may be modified by combining with it another of dissimilar elements, is most certainly true; and this can often be done with the best of results—but it can only be done by a union of elements that will, when united, or while uniting, tend or work in the direction of harmony toward a point that contains the conditions of successful operation. By this method, a defective physical conformation may be relieved, and in great part cured; and a disturbed, or deficient, or illy balanced temperament or nerve organism may be quieted or stimulated to the point or degree called for in the level-headed and strong-willed trotting champion.

In some families, the anatomical or muscular conformation may be defective or deficient; the front cannon-bones may be too short or too long—the same may be the case with the forearm, or the thigh, or the length of sweep from hip to hock. There are families which possess deficiencies or excesses in each of these particulars; all of which can, to a great degree, and perhaps to the degree requisite for complete success, be corrected by judicious selections and crossing; but the first condition essential to such a process is a knowledge of the exact

state of the defect which it is necessary to correct. This involves the study and knowledge of diverse physical and mental proportions and conformation; a matter which is so exceedingly novel—almost incomprehensible and passing strange to some of our very learned ones, who have for a long time taught us horse lore, that the bare proposition to ascertain by actual measure and comparison the relative proportions of different animals is received as something that should stagger and disturb the equilibrium of these staid and deeply philosophical minds. The real fact is, that there is nothing so dishonest as sheer ignorance, and nothing so willfully ignorant as downright dishonesty.

I can, in this connection, appeal to the well-known fact that our great trotters or trotting sires do not, as a general rule, come from the long and brilliantly drawn out pedigrees. Take the stallions from some distinguished sire, and from dams whose pedigrees are six to eight generations deep—every link bringing out the name of some distinguished family or animal—and these are generally failures. But Hambletonian, from the mare by Patriot, has produced the first trotting sire of America; and from the mare by Bay Roman he produced the renowned sire of Goldsmith Maid, Ahmont and Thorndale; from Princess he produced Happy Medium; from Sally Feagles he produced Peacemaker. Amazonia produced Abdallah; and the dams of Blackwood, Thomas Jefferson, Smuggler, Dexter, Startle, Mambrino Chief, Lady Thorn, Ericsson, Clark Chief, and the most of our great trotters and trotting stallions were short-pedigree mares; while, as before stated, the long-pedigreed stallions have not generally been very successful—almost proving that one good mare is better than half a dozen, and most clearly showing that one good mare is more reliable than a long pedigree, and of far greater value. And in this connection, let me ask the question, why is it that so many of our short-pedigreed and part-bred mares that have no trotting crosses whatever, have been so noted as the dams of great trotters from this and that particular sire?

Why is it that so many trotting stallions of strong and positive trotting quality have succeeded so well as sires with fair road mares not noted for great trotting qualities, and generally coming from one or two thoroughbred crosses—such, for example, as the dams of Lady Thorn, Lula, May Queen, Music, Lady Stout, Lucy, Pilot Jr., John Morgan, Jenny, Woodford Mambrino, Brignoli, Jim Porter, Molsey, Great Eastern, Grafton, and many other superior trotters? To the

mind of the intelligent breeder the answer is very obvious. These mares had the blood, the stamina, the highly organized nervous temperament, to give the trotter high quality in all these respects; and at the same time they carried in themselves no positive, deeply-bred and immovable trotting tendencies or inclinations of their own to conflict with, combat, or stand in the way of those of the trotting stallions with which they are crossed. Hence, the stallion had his own way in this matter of gait and other trotting elements. Hence, Lady Thorn, Woodford Mambrino and Brignoli were Mambrinos; Lucy was a Patchen; Lady Stout is gaited like all the produce of her sire; Eriesson and Clark Chief differ from all the other sons of Mambrino Chief, for the reason that Mrs. Caudle and her daughter, while good mares to cross with the Chief, yet had trotting blood and ways of their own that they refused to yield to him. Hence these two families have their own type. But it does not absolutely follow that long and rich pedigrees may not be found in the dams of our best trotters and trotting stallions, provided the breeder will carefully study the characteristics, both mental and physical, that enter into his chosen combination. Unless this is done—and in most instances it is not—the result will be failure.

Violent or remote crosses must be avoided, for the very reason that they will bring together elements both of physical conformation and nervous organism that will not harmonize, but will operate against and neutralize each other.

The stallion now under consideration affords the best subject for illustrating some of the foregoing principles of correct breeding that I have yet reached. I call particular attention to their application in delineating the character and make-up of this horse.

Governor Sprague, as stated previously, was bred and foaled in Rhode Island. At or before the age of one year he was sent, with other stock, to the State of Kansas. In July, 1873, after he was two years old, he was broken to harness, but had no further handling. He gave evidence of much aptitude for the trotting gait, and a high degree of speed, and in October of that year, such was his early promise, that he was sold for \$1,500, to Messrs. Higbee Bros. and A. C. Babcock, of Canton, Ill. It is stated that after his purchase he was taken to his new home at Canton, and kept in a large box-stall until he was three years old, without further work. It is further said that his work as a three-year-old was very light, merely amounting to a fair degree of exercise with a view to accustom him to the harness.

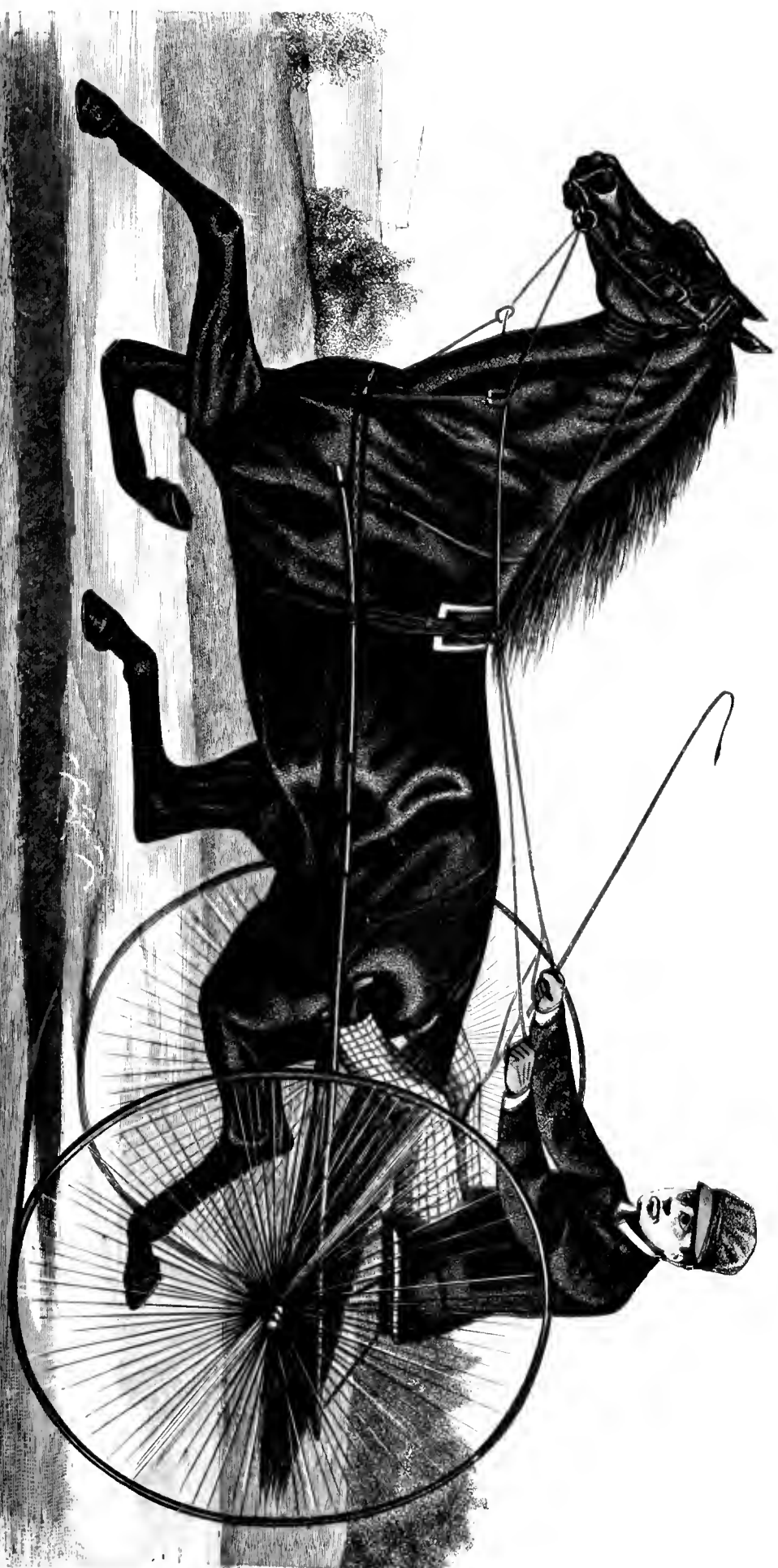
During the next year, as a four-year-old, he was kept in train, but, as is alleged, never driven at speed a full mile except on one occasion, when he showed 2:28; also made two half-mile trials, each in 1:12, and all on a half-mile track.

In the last week in July, of that year, he was taken to Cleveland, Buffalo and Utica, apparently for the purpose of exhibiting his precocity and extraordinary ability as a young trotter. He was jogged two miles at Cleveland, by the side of another horse, and was then driven for speed the third mile without stopping; and he made it in 2:26½, in the easiest apparent manner, coming out as he does from all his efforts, as though it was merely an exercising gait.

At Buffalo, about one week later, he was jogged around the track, and then sent at speed a full mile in 2:21¼, making the last half a half-second faster than the first one, and finishing the third quarter in 34 seconds—a 2:16 gait for a four-year-old. Again, shortly thereafter, at the Utica meeting, he made another public trial, in which he marked 2:21¾. He was afterward taken home and withdrawn from training until the following spring, when it was resumed.

He made his first appearance in a race at Dexter Park, July 20th, 1875, when he appeared against seven competitors. From his demeanor then no one would have thought he was anything but a veteran of many campaigns. The presence of other horses or that of the crowd had no more visible effect on him than would their absence. He carried himself in splendid style; apparently going more for the purpose of exhibiting the *nonchalance* of himself and driver than for that of making fast time or winning a race. In fact, his motion was so easy—so natural, and requiring so little effort or control from his driver—that no one would have realized the speed at which he went but for the efforts of his competitors, and the still more authoritative decision of the watch. He passed through the crowd and away from them at an easy but rapid rate, and was at the half-mile in 1:08, and so far ahead of all others that they were certain to have been distanced if he had not been arrested in his flight of speed. His driver then gave him a sudden but severe pull, forced him to a break, and held him in, coming the last half at such a jog as to let the worsted followers cross the distance line while he was brought almost to a walk.

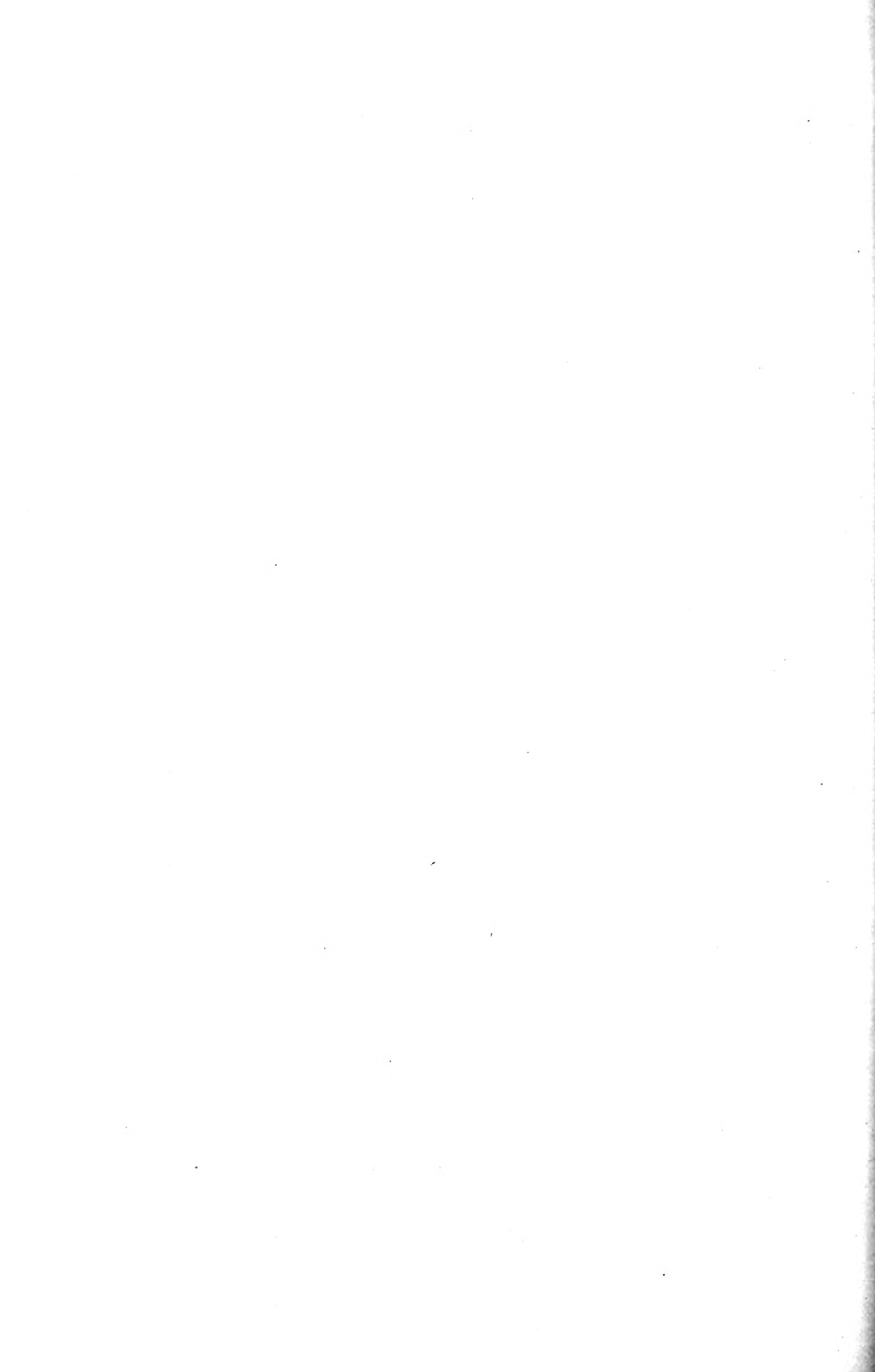
This was the first time I ever saw him, and I then thought, and still think, that he could have made 2:17 or 2:18 without a break. He really seemed to make no effort at all. On the next day after this, his first race, he was sold by his owner to Hon. J. I. Case, of Racine, Wis.,



BAND-MENALTY-CO.

# GOVERNOR SPRAGUE,

Winner of the Independence Stake for Five-Year-Olds, 1876.



for the sum of \$27,500, cash, and was at once shipped to Racine by his new and present owner, with the determination to abandon several Eastern engagements in which he had been entered. Mr. Case soon thereafter rescinded this decision, and ordered him to Buffalo, to which place he was at once shipped; and thence, early in August, to Rochester—all within about two weeks of his Dexter Park performance. At Rochester, he appeared in the second race of his life, and won it in three straight heats, in 2:24, 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:23, against Mambrino Kate, Hattie R. and Rose; at every part of the race displaying the same coolness and ease which at all times mark his trotting performances. Thence to Poughkeepsie, the same month, where he entered the lists with Mambrino Kate, Irene, Carrie N. and Big Fellow. He gave the first heat to Kate, in 2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and then won the race in 2:20 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ , in the same incomparable style.

From this last field of unbroken success he went to Philadelphia; and at the grand Centennial failure he appeared in the Independence Race against Blackwood Jr., the first of his family, Elsie Good, the fast daughter of Blue Bull, and Lady Mills, the favorite daughter of Chosroes. He won this race in three heats, in 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:26, 2:27, although the weather and lack of condition were telling badly against him. His withdrawal before the race was asked and refused.

The account of this race which appeared in the *National Live-Stock Journal* for November, is as follows:

The Independence race for five-year-olds attracted a good deal of interest, from the fact that upon this occasion the great black stallions Gov. Sprague and Blackwood Jr., for the first time, were to try conclusions. It was generally known that the former was out of condition, and among the betting fraternity Blackwood Jr. was made a favorite on the evening preceding the race; but the result upset all of their calculations. On the first heat Blackwood Jr. took the lead, closely pressed by Governor Sprague, and kept his position, trotting rather unsteadily and breaking often, until they entered the home-stretch, when Doble sent Governor Sprague to the front and won the heat by half a length. In the remaining two heats Governor Sprague took the lead from the start and kept it to the wire. Blackwood Jr. was very unsteady throughout the race, while Governor Sprague appeared perfectly unconcerned and never made a break.

At the same meeting he trotted, against adverse weather and ill condition, for the National Cup, competing with Blackwood Jr. and the veteran Sam Purdy. It was conceded by all that he was unfit to start; and the only day that was in any degree favorable for such a contest was the one on which his famous, and in this race victorious,



competitor trotted. Each horse made separate trials. Governor Sprague made one trial September 27th, in 2:25½, and a second and third on October 2d, in 2:25¾, 2:23¾. Sam Purdy made three trials on different days, in 2:24½, 2:26, 2:27; and Blackwood Jr., on the 29th of September, made two trials, and won the cup, in 2:23, 2:23½.

Governor Sprague is a black stallion, no white. He is fifteen hands two inches in height, but has withers that rise one inch higher than those of Blackwood and Swigert; his shoulder-blade not coming to the top of the withers as clearly as in those two stallions—as compared with them he is only properly fifteen hands one inch in height. He has a short, broad back, and an appearance of more muscle along the sides of the backbone, covering out over the upper part of the ribs, than is to be seen in many others. His rump droops but slightly, and his croup does not stand out quite so high as in those of the more positive Messenger type. In this particular, and that of the withers and top of the shoulder, he does not follow the Messenger type in clear and positive degree as compared with other stallions named in these chapters; although the distinguishing features of Messenger are elsewhere clearly and deeply stamped. His head and forehead are of the true Messenger mould, and his close and compact form and muscular frame-work, his sinewy limbs, his grim toughness of fibre, all go to show an intensity of quality rarely found in a trotter that does not have a deep and solid backing in the blood of old Messenger. He has nothing of the Duroc texture—not a soft spot in him. His legs show no gummy, non-absorbing quality. His ankles show the appearance of having been at work, and the skin and ligaments about and over the joints show a sort of thickening; but it is not that kind that indicates a presence of unabsorbed secretion, but rather the hardening and toughening of the whole fibre, as the hand of the blacksmith and stonecutter thickens and toughens with the work which brings this change of texture—and with it the capacity for further work and greater endurance.

He is none of your band-box stallions. He shows well in his clean and comfortable box-stall; but best of all, out on the road or track in a sleigh or a sulky. And distance lends enchantment to the view in another sense than that conceived by the poet. "He won't do for a hundred miles on a turnpike road," said a gentleman of great intelligence, regarding a prominent stallion, but he did not and could not thus speak of Governor Sprague. That is the kind of work that will bring out in strong degree his pre-eminent quality. He has not the

appearance of a large horse; but when I saw him after his return from his Eastern contests, in 1876, I visited him, in company with a gentleman who is one of the best judges of quality in a real good horse I know of, and his first word was an expression of surprise. "Why," said he, "he will do. You can hitch him to a stone-boat."

The physical conformation of Governor Sprague is well worthy our most attentive and careful study. Calling attention again to the statement so often made that trotters go in all forms, let us also call especial attention to the other fact, that they also go in all sorts of ways—from the very worst possible for the trotting gait, to the best that has yet been attained. Let me also here repeat the important enunciation, that this matter of gait is, in the greater part, yea, almost altogether, the result of physical conformation, and the very reason that trotters go in all sorts of ways is the same fact that they go in all forms. But, as there is a way of going that approaches perfection, so there is a form that also approaches perfection, and the two are found together, the one the result of the other.

Governor Sprague is a horse of medium size—weighs 1,060 pounds, and in full form may reach 1,100; not over 15 hands 2 inches, and not so high on the rump as on the withers. His neck is 30 inches in length, and his back 28 inches. His even, steady, trotting gait—to which I shall call attention hereafter—is the result of his leverage, both front and rear, and the one is as important and as essential to the perfectly gaited horse as the other. In the progress of these chapters, I have called attention to the faults as well as the excellences of each animal, in each case pointing to and suggesting the perfect model, if it could be anywhere found. I need not recur to each of these separately, farther than to say that, in some cases, I found defective action in front as the result of a misproportion in the relative length of the forearm and the front cannon; that in some it was found that a thigh relatively too long produced too much action, or excessive action, for the smoothly-working and lasting trotter; in some, both of these defects, to a greater or less extent, were combined. If the principles there enunciated were correct, they pointed to or suggested that there might be a faultless model, if any such could in reality be found; and it remains in this chapter to ascertain if the model under consideration combines the requisite conditions of harmony and success indicated. Governor Sprague in his front leverage has a front cannon 11 inches, and a forearm 21 inches—the same precisely as the stallion Florida, and very nearly the same as the Volunteers of the same height. He has

for a rear leverage a thigh of  $23\frac{1}{4}$  inches, and is  $39\frac{1}{4}$  inches from centre of hip to outer edge of the hock. He is muscled about as the average sons of Hambletonian—not so heavy in the quarter and on the lower thigh as those of the Star cross, but has great strength of limb, especially at the hocks and other joints.

To those of my readers who have carefully read my description of the conformation and gait of other horses, the gait of Governor Sprague will be readily understood. At a slow jog he paddles slightly—that is, he throws his front feet outwardly sidewise as he starts off—but as soon as he advances beyond the rate of a mere jog, his front feet are thrown forward in right line, and with perfect precision and great force. He elevates his feet fairly (but not enough to make his knees appear higher than his elbows), and bends his knees slightly. After a careful study of his gait in rapid motion, I fixed upon the exact position of his front feet, legs and knees, and the artist, under my direction, in the picture of Governor Sprague, which appears in and was executed for this work, has given the most exact and perfect expression to the appearance of this horse, in every respect. He bends his knees a little more than the average Volunteers and Almonds, but not nearly so much as the Everetts and others that I have described in previous chapters. He throws his foot forward with a plunge that is the extreme of vigor, but does not bring it down with the sharp, chopping stroke that tells so fearfully upon the forelegs and feet of other trotters. His action of the forelegs is out-reaching to a fair degree, and attended with extreme muscular force and energy.

He has been described by an able and elegant writer as “a foot and leg trotter;” but I suppose this writer did not intend to overlook the vigorous and powerful action of his shoulders and the muscular part of his forequarter. His motion is in such perfect line, so true and steady, as to appear to call into requisition but little besides his feet and legs. But every part works with great power and in perfect harmony. To describe his action behind, I find it convenient to repeat and refer to what I wrote in a former chapter:

The Abdallah gait is like that of the Clay in this, that the hind leg appears to extend backward much in the same line or manner as the Clay, but not so far, and is brought forward also much in the same line, but not so far, but with an elastic, springy motion—the very opposite of the violent and demonstrative—that gives the eye the impression that, in reality, no power at all is being expended. The legs appear to extend moderately, but do not really appear to bend, and the muscles work so easily that they do not seem to be working at all; the body appears to rock gently to and fro on four straight

legs, and yet glides, or dances along, with an ease that can scarcely be described or even comprehended. The perfection of the Abdallah gait is seen in Goldsmith Maid; and the ease with which she will dance and glide along, her body gently swaying to and fro, and pass over a mile in 2:20 or better without making half the display of great trotting action that many make in going at 2:45, is marvellous to the eyes. The action of the pure Abdallah does not seem to depend on great mass of muscle. He is the lithe, sinewy fellow, and his joints have a spring about them that gives him a light, elastic bound at each step; he seems to roll, or rock, gently from side to side on each of his four feet, as if his legs were stiff and springy; but does it with such ease as to remind one of a herd of deer on the prairie when they come down from their long leaps to their lofty rocking-trot, in which they seem to employ no muscle at all and scarcely bend their limbs. The Abdallah horse is not one of long measure, or skeleton (his thigh and length from hip to hock would, in a horse of 15 hands 3 inches in height, be about the Hambletonian average of 23—39 inches), but his agility and fleetness are due, in great measure, to the perfection of the materials of which he is made.

In describing the gait of Florida, whom this horse resembles in conformation and gait more nearly than any other I know of, I wrote as follows:

To describe his gait is a task of some difficulty. It is a rapid gait—consisting of rapid motions—does not appear to be far-reaching or dwelling, but all the feet are picked up rapidly, thrown out from the body slightly side-wise, and come down with a sharp, chopping stroke, much calling to mind the motion of the prairie chicken, or other short-winged birds, in their flight in a straight line from the beholder. Standing front or rear, you seem to see all the feet in the air at once, but not at great elevation; and the body rocks, or sways, gently and very slightly, and goes forward like an arrow from a bow. The motion is sharp, quick and vigorous, but not violent or demonstrative. It seems to involve more muscular action of the limbs and body than the Abdallah gait, but not so great an expenditure of power or outlay of strength as the Clay or Patchen gait. To the eye it is a motion that is full of rapture and beauty. The horse seems to go on short wings, but with a wonderfully steady motion, in a straight line, and with perfect poise of body. The Abdallah gait seems to be one that you can best see as it passes alongside the beholder, or as it recedes gently in the distance while passing. The real poetry of the Bellfounder gait must be seen while the animal is approaching or going from you. It is then you can best see his stifles and elbows in true line, and all four of his feet seemingly in the air at the same time, and you can see the lines of his hocks and elbows, and those of his fore and hind feet, all at the same time and in perfect line. When thus seen the trotter is a piece of machinery rarely excelled in any department of mechanical skill. But no pen can describe such motions, they must be seen and attended to with a close and discriminating eye to be appreciated.

The gait of Governor Sprague is not exactly like either of the above, but occupies a place between the two. He does not spread his feet

or hocks wide apart, like those of the Duroc cross—his thigh is too short for that—but he opens wide enough to pass smoothly and with perfect ease. He extends his feet behind moderately, and sets them forward squarely under his body—Messenger style—but not as far either backward or forward as the Clays and Patchens. He has not the lithe, springy action of the Abdallah, but one of about the same reach and of great power. He does not seem to lift his hind feet so high nor so near his body, and spread his stifles out so wide as Florida; and the reason is, that his thigh is shorter; while his length of limb being almost the same as Florida, he approaches him far nearer than those who have a  $24\frac{1}{2}$ -inch thigh, and only 39 inches from hip to hock; and the degree of this difference is in exact proportion to the difference in physical proportions. He bends his legs, and shows his muscle and well-proportioned levers in a propelling power that is expressive of great vigor, yet great ease. You get the idea of his trotting action as well in seeing him sidewise, passing near or distant, as in coming toward or going from you. His motion is a rapid use of his feet and legs, and an even and steady glide of his body. He is a deceptive trotter; he makes so little apparent motion, and every move in right line, that he really goes much faster than appearances indicate. He has abundant motion at all points, but no excess anywhere. I notice a recent remark of one who came close to the truth in saying, "Excessive knee-action is exhaustive, and, like straddling behind, is positively a false motion, entirely extraneous to anything that helps the horse forward." An observation to be highly commended, as containing much common sense. Excessive motion has two disadvantages; it produces an irregular and uneven gait, and exhausts the vital forces and energies of the horse. These irregular gaited horses are not the stayers. That Governor Sprague can trot at all times, and so many heats, at such even rate of speed—like his sire—is owing to a conformation that affords abundant action, with no excess anywhere. He holds his head at fair elevation, and with perfect poise of body glides along in the smoothest and easiest manner possible.

In a previous chapter I said:

The question has been asked, Is there any true proportion or measure for a perfect trotter? I answer, There is; and there are some stallions that come very near to the true proportion. The Abdallah and Messenger standard of 39—23 is about as near the proportion as can be selected. A stallion that has a thigh 24 inches should not be less than 40 inches from hip to hock. This was Hambletonian's and Volunteer's proportion. Smuggler is 24—40, and no finer action behind was ever witnessed than he displays.

I may say that the average of the sons and daughters of Hambletonian run about 23—39, and this seems also something near the collateral branches of the Abdallah and Messenger family, when the horses are about 15 hands 2 inches in height. I have found that trotters which carry about this proportion move with a smooth, easy gait; do not straddle; do not interfere nor strike; go wide enough to pass, but with no excess, and set their feet squarely under their body, and move in right line. I have also found that those that have a front cannon longer in proportion to the length of the forearm than 11 to 21, lift the knees higher, and bring the front feet down with a sharp, chopping stroke, reaching out less, and striking the feet on the ground with greater force—all in direct proportion to the difference. Those of the Henry cross, and most thoroughbreds, are defective in this respect; and it is the great and serious defect with Smuggler, as already pointed out. On the other hand, when the front cannon is shorter than as 11 is to 21 in relation to the forearm, the horse will be inclined to be calf-kneed—will not raise his feet or knees high enough, and will dig or point with his front feet—a very serious defect. The same writer I have quoted says, in another place: “I believe this excessive knee-action to be always the accompaniment of a straight, upright shoulder, and, as such, an evidence of low breeding.” This is a grave error. The very opposite of this is the truth. The Messenger horse, and particularly the Abdallahs, are noted for their upright and straight shoulders, and for their lack of knee-action, and certainly not for low breeding. And so marked is this the fact, that it presents the query, whether the straight shoulder is not for the trotter and the sloping shoulder for the galloper. The latter is certainly true, and I suspect, also, the former is. It is my expectation to treat this question more fully elsewhere. I say, therefore, that there is a perfect proportion for a trotter; but, in saying this, I do not utter the absurdity to declare that the measure itself will declare the trotter; for the perfect trotter must have some other qualities besides perfect proportion. The measure will decide whether he has the right proportion; and if he has not that, he can not be the perfect trotter.

There was an evenness of conformation in the sire and dam of Governor Sprague that completely harmonized in the son. The most important trotting factor in his sire was a remote Duroc-Messenger cross; and this is one of the rare instances where great success has been achieved by the union of the sire thus bred on the in-bred Messenger dam. The reverse order of breeding—that is, the Hamble-

tonian or in-bred Messenger sire on the Duroc-Messenger mare, as in the case of Thorndale, Almont, Administrator, Volunteer, Blackwood and Swigert—is a line of breeding that has been attended with the most distinguished success; but the other has been so signal a failure, that I hardly think at this day the chances of a good colt from a daughter or granddaughter of Hambletonian and a son of Mambrino Chief would be worth the service of either sire or dam. The only chances of success would be in those cases where, as in this, the Duroc cross in the sire was remote, and not positive. In the case of Rhode Island, it is apparent that, whatever may have been the relative preponderance of Duroc or Messenger character in Cock of the Rock—a fact that I am not prepared to state—the Messenger, and not the Duroc, was uppermost in Rhode Island; for, be it understood, that these two bloods were so marked and positive, and so different in their peculiarities, that, while they worked so well in many respects, and constitute in all combinations the most *royal trotting blood* yet known in this country, the relative characteristics of each are clearly recognizable, however remote from the parent stock or first union. Thus the Duroc is faintly recognizable in the Volunteers, clearly in the Stars, the Almonts, Blackwoods, and all others similarly bred—not more so than the Messenger, but as clear and distinct—while in Rhode Island and Sprague the Duroc seems to have disappeared; the blood, of course, is there, in a remote and feeble current, but its characteristics are buried, obscured, if not obliterated, by the outliving and doubly-reinforced strains of old Messenger, that stamp character on every lineament of this horse as a trotter. Governor Sprague is a Messenger of the highest type—in conformation, in healthful soundness of blood, bone, tissue, muscle and fibre. He has the level brain, and the quiet, steady nerve of the best of the Messengers. His courage and eager power of will hold him ready for the sharpest and fiercest contest; and yet he is as steady in the midst of earnest contest as when jogging along. I think in this respect he is a marvelous horse. He cares nothing for the presence of one or many horses. No gelding could be more quiet or unmoved by the close proximity or even contiguity of other horses, of either sex. And he is so steady and true in harness, and easy to manage, that it almost leaves it uncertain, as between him and his driver, which was the teacher, and which the pupil. This quietness of temper is shown in him and his sire in the predisposition to take on flesh. He is just like his sire in this respect—requiring constant work, or he will take on too much

flesh. This trait in man or beast indicates a nervous temperament of the most serene and quiet order; yet some of these same kind can be roused to the highest point of determination and energy when the occasion demands its exhibition or presence. This is one of the finest traits in this horse, and he possesses it in a degree that marks him as pre-eminent.

Take him all in all, he is a horse whose physical conformation, nervous organism, kindness of temper and gentle demeanor, in stable or harness, go hand-in-hand with his remarkable precocity as a trotter; and all combine to teach us the summing up of the many important truths so imperfectly sketched and faintly foreshadowed in the foregoing chapters. And as I have been just and faithful, both to the animals, their owners, and my readers, I can not more fitly close this chapter than by expressing the belief that, in the light of all my experience and study, and a knowledge of the trotting stallions of this country, not circumscribed by narrow limits, he is one of the best trotters and most valuable trotting stallions this country has yet produced. That he will be a universal success can not be assured of any; but if he is not successful, it will surely be from the lack of proper selection of the mares with which he shall be mated.



## CHAPTER XXII.

### MAMBRINO CHIEF.

THIS was a stallion whose renown was second only to that of Hambletonian, and whose merits were undervalued by one large portion of the horsemen of America, over-estimated by a class equally as numerous, and properly understood by neither of them. To this day the blood constituents which founded his greatness have never been established by any proper analysis, and those who held to his stock with admiring tenacity, had no intelligent reason for the faith that was within them; and those who rejected his blood, had no real appreciation of its value, and no comprehension of its elements.

He was bred in Dutchess county, N. Y., and was foaled about 1845, the property of Richard Eldridge, of Mabbettsville. As a three-year-old he was sold to Warren Williams, and in 1851 he was again sold to George T. Williams, all in the same county; and in the winter of 1854 he was purchased by Edwin Thorne, Esq., for Mr. James B. Clay, of Ashland, and went to Kentucky.

He lived only until July, 1861, although coming from a long-lived family. He made but seven seasons in Kentucky, and it may be safely said now that he died long before he was sufficiently understood to select mares that were suitable for the qualities which he possessed, and that it was only the result of chance that he achieved his greatest success. It is now quite easy to determine that if he had lived in the present day, or until his blood qualities had been understood, he would have left the impress of a remarkably successful stallion.

He was a natural trotter, but was never in the hands of a trainer; yet he could trot in 2:32, and, doubtless, in the hands of a proper trainer could have shown 2:20 far more easily than many of the great trotters of our own day. Of this I have little doubt, if any whatever. The sire of Mambrino Chief was Mambrino Paymaster, bred by Azariah Arnold, of Dutchess county, N. Y., and was foaled about 1821

or 1822. Mr. George Taber, who had charge of Mambrino Paymaster the year he produced Mambrino Chief, says that it was when the former was twenty-two years old.

Mambrino Paymaster was by Mambrino, son of imported Messenger, and Mambrino died on the farm of Mr. Arnold. The reports do not agree as to the dates of foaling of either Mambrino Paymaster or Mambrino Chief. The dam of the former has been generally supposed to have been a mare by imported Paymaster, but this is controverted and may be regarded as entirely unauthentic. Mambrino Paymaster was a large horse, 16½ hands high, and produced good and large stock of much style and substance, but none of them noted for trotting action or speed, except the produce of the one mare that gave us Mambrino Chief.

It can not be definitely assumed that Mambrino Paymaster had not some qualifications for a trotting sire, because he was not a trotter himself, and produced none from any other mare than the dam of Mambrino Chief. He was a son of Mambrino, a thoroughbred, and a son of Messenger. He had great trotting quality, but it was held in union with other qualities that were perhaps paramount. From a real trotting mare Mambrino would produce a trotter or a trotting sire; but from a racing or thoroughbred mare, or one that had no trotting quality, he would produce a horse that, like himself, would not show out his trotting quality, although he might possess it in a latent or undemonstrative way. Such, perhaps, was Mambrino Paymaster, and when he was mated with a mare or roadster—of royal trotting blood—then came a great trotter and a powerfully impressive trotting stallion.

Much has been said and written about the breeding of the dam of Mambrino Chief, and some efforts were made to learn her breeding, but all in vain. The reason of the failure is obvious to my mind—the inquiries were made of those who possessed no knowledge; and with the failure the effort ended. The principal and only trustworthy information that was made public concerning her, previous to my own investigations, was secured through the endeavors of Edwin Thorne, Esq., the well-known gentleman above referred to, and I can but express the opinion that, if he had followed up the trail, the problem would much sooner have been solved. I extract the following from the statements made by that gentleman:

There has been so much written in relation to the dam of Mambrino Chief, tending to bewilder rather than enlighten the practical breeder, that I have,

at the solicitation of a friend, devoted several days to interviewing parties with a view of getting all the *facts* that are known in relation to her for publication, to set at rest forever all *theories* on the subject.

Mr. Dan'l B. Haight, of Dover Plains, was the first party I called upon. He informed me that the first he knew of the mare she was owned by Elder Smith, a minister, who resided in the village of Dover Plains. He had her only a short time, and sold her to Mr. John Taber, a neighbor, from whom he, Mr. H., purchased her for \$75. *Nothing was known of her pedigree*; Mr. Taber said that she came from the West. Mr. Haight describes her as being a large brown mare, with a coarse head, and large heavy ears, low on the shoulders, deep and broad in the chest, a very long back, badly coupled, good limbs, large feet that looked as if she had been fed on corn, which strengthened his belief that she came from the West. In disposition, speed and action she was nothing more than an ordinary work horse. She was six or seven years old when he bought her; he worked her seven or eight years on his farm, and having her when he purchased Mambrino Paymaster, he bred her to him. The produce was the horse Goliah. He did not breed her again, but soon after traded her with Richard Eldridge, now of Mabbettsville, for another horse.

I called upon Mr. Eldridge, and found he had a much higher opinion of the mare than Mr. Haight. He said she had a good-sized head and rather a large but not a heavy ear; her back, if anything, was a little long, but not much out of the way in the coupling. She was broad in the breast and deep in the girth. Her feet were not over-large for her size; her legs were good—the hind ones so good that they were often the subject of remark. She had good carriage and was *an uncommon smart traveler*. He bred her twice to Mambrino Paymaster and once to Dr. Camfield's horse Sir Andrew. The produce by Mambrino Paymaster was the brown horse Mambrino Chief, and a bay colt; from Sir Andrew it was a bay colt.

After breeding the three colts, Mr. Eldridge sold her to a neighbor, Mr. Lewis Wilber. I called on him. He said the mare had a great reputation for speed when he bought her. She must then have been close on to twenty years old. He represents her as being a good big mare, without anything in particular to remark in her appearance. She did not have a bad back; she was strong and willing. While running at pasture, without any grain, she would take him, a man weighing over 200 pounds, in an ordinary one-horse, square box farm wagon, with a pretty good load in it, to Poughkeepsie, 17 miles distant, over a hilly road, in three hours. In returning home she would come the last half of the distance with as much spirit as she did the first. During the season of grass, when not at work, she was in the pasture field. Winters she was stabled, and occasionally fed some grain. At no time while he owned her was she fed more than two or three quarts of grain (oats) per day. In 1855, the year after Mambrino Chief went to Kentucky, Mr. Clay farmed her from Mr. Wilber and had her stunted to Washington, a son of Mambrino Paymaster, but nothing resulted from it. She died, as near as Mr. Wilber can recollect, about the year 1857, sound in limb and body. Her death was the result of an accident—she fell and broke her neck.

Being desirous to get other evidence than that furnished by the direct owners of the mare, I called on their neighbors whom I thought most likely to remember her, to wit: Mr. Nelson Haight, a brother of Daniel B.; Mr. Stephen Haight, and his son-in-law Mr. Merritt, whose farm adjoins Mr. Wilber's; Mr. William Mahurd, who had the mare the season she had her third colt, and Mr. David S. Tallman, who formerly owned the Dunkin Mambrino, and is now the owner of the Hambletonian stallion Manhattan. Mr. Nelson Haight spoke in the most unqualified terms of the mare. He said nothing was known of her pedigree; she was about  $15\frac{1}{2}$  hands high, dark brown in color, heavy moulded, long, deep body on short legs. She had as good a head, ear, neck and shoulder as he ever saw on a horse, and as good a set of limbs. If there could have been any fault found with her, she was a little narrow over the loin, though her hips were good width, and her quarters heavy. He had worked her on the farm, and plowed with her many a day. She was an uncommonly good worker, a fast walker and a great roadster. After his brother parted with her, he saw her on one occasion being driven down the road with three persons in a common square box wagon, at a three-minute gait. Mr. Stephen Haight, Mr. Merritt and Mr. Mahurd corroborated what Mr. Eldridge and Mr. Wilber said. Mr. Tallman recollected the mare perfectly, as his attention was repeatedly called to her by an old uncle of his, Mr. Moses Husted, who was high authority on the horse in his day. He says she was an extra-good mare, a very fast walker. He had often seen her taking Mr. Wilber with a load of apples or potatoes to market, at a good gait, without any apparent effort.

If she was six years old when Mr. Haight bought her, and he owned her seven years, parting with her after she bred Goliah, who was foaled, as Mr. H. informed me, in 1841, and not 1843, as Wallace has it, she must have been bordering on thirty years of age when she died in 1857.

Her colts by Mambrino Paymaster were all trotters. Wallace has Goliah by Mambrino Paymaster, in his Register, as a brown horse, and in his Calendar as a black. As there was but one trotter so bred, by that name, I take it for granted that he is the one referred to, although he was in color bay. He is credited with having trotted in Philadelphia, July 1, 1851, beating Zachary Taylor in 2:33 and 2:33 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Mr. Eldridge sold Mambrino Chief to Mr. Warren Williams, when three years old. When six years old, he became the property of Mr. G. Titus Williams, who sold a half-interest in him to Mr. James M. Cockcroft, of New York City. He never was regularly trained. Mr. Cockcroft was a good horseman, and at that time passed several months each year at Washington Hollow, and drove the horse parts of two seasons. He never was trotted in a public race. Mr. G. T. Williams is my authority for saying he trotted a full mile on the Washington Hollow track, driven by Mr. Cockcroft, in 2:32, and he timed him on several occasions, his quarters, in 37 seconds.

The third colt by Mambrino Paymaster was a bay, with considerable white on both hind legs. I do not know that he was ever in a public race. He was owned and driven on the roads about New York by Mr. Anson Livingston. He was fine gaited, and could trot in 2:40. I knew all three of these horses,

and looked at the latter after Mr. Livingston parted with him, with a view of purchasing him. The colt by Sir Andrew was a fine-looking fellow. Mr. David S. Tallman bought him when four years old, because he had so high an opinion of his dam. He broke him, and sold him after breaking him for about double what he gave for him. He was taken to White Plains, Westchester Co., in this State, where he died in the course of a month, before he was sufficiently broken to develop any speed, if he had any in him. He was, however, not promising; neither was Goliath at his age—Mr. Haight sold him for a cart-horse.

All the foregoing, relating to the mare, has been obtained from my neighbors residing within a radius of five miles, and can be relied upon as being all that is known of the pedigree and general characteristics of the old brown mare, immortalized by her son Mambrino Chief.

Let her breeding be what it may, the fact that she produced Goliath, Mambrino Chief, and the Livingston horse, all fast trotters, coupled with the fact that the only one of the trio kept entire was able to transmit, to a remarkable degree, his wonderful qualities, is evidence to my mind that she was much more than an ordinary mare.

EDWIN THORNE.

Thorndale, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

P. S.—As it has been suggested that some of the good qualities of Mambrino Chief may have come from the Paymaster mare, the dam of Mambrino Paymaster, I may, in this connection, state, that if she had any Paymaster blood in her it was not known. Mambrino Paymaster was bred by my neighbor, the late Azariah Arnold. In the summer of 1870 I called upon him with a friend, to learn what we could about Mambrino and Mambrino Paymaster. Mambrino died and was buried on his farm. In relation to Mambrino Paymaster, he said he was sired by Mambrino. His dam was a good-looking, three-year-old bay mare he bought of a man at Hyde Park, who said she was sired by a horse that stood at Fishkill. *He did not know anything about her breeding.* She looked so much like the Paymaster stock that he (Mr. A.) called her a Paymaster mare, and named her colt Mambrino Paymaster.

And to which the following was added by the same gentleman:

Mr. Eldridge informs me that I reported my interview with him correctly, but there was one thing that did not occur to him at the time, but that has come to him since, and that was that Daniel B. told him when he bought the mare that she could trot a mile with two men in a wagon in four minutes.

Mr. Theodore Weeks tells me that he once rode behind the mare with Mr. Eldridge's son, in a square box lumber wagon, faster than he ever rode before or since. He thought she was a trotter.

Through the aid of Col. George F. Stevens, of Poughkeepsie, I received the following letter, bearing on the subject:

At the request of Col. Stevens, I write this, giving you all I know of Mambrino Paymaster and his descendants. I knew Mambrino Chief from the day he was foaled until he left the State, also his dam. The tendency to grey legs

came, beyond a doubt, through his dam, as I am certain there was no such tendency in the family of Mambrino Paymaster; his get were most uniformly a rich, dark bay, with black points; the color of the produce of Mambrino Chief's dam was variable, Goliath being a dark bay, the Chief a dark brown, while the next (known as the Cox Horse) was a light bay with three white legs, high up, and a white face, the only one I ever saw so conspicuously marked. The dam of Mambrino Chief was brought to our town by Mr. Nicholson. I saw her the day she arrived with many others. She was bought some fifty or sixty miles west of Kingston. She was a large, coarse, brown or black mare, I think, without white marks, at least not conspicuous. I saw her almost every week for ten years.

G. G. SHARPSTEIN.

I also insert a letter from Col. Stevens, well known also in every part of the country:

POUGHKEEPSIE, July 24th, 1876.

Inclosed is a letter from Mr. G. G. Sharpstein, an old resident of Washington Hollow (about 15 miles east of here in this county.) He is well informed in all matters pertaining to the stock horses of this section, and I will give you some of the points drawn from him in course of conversation. He knew the man Nicholson, who brought the drove of horses in which Mambrino Chief's dam came to Washington Hollow. He says that Nicholson was absent but little time after the drove. He went on horseback, and could not have gone far. Nicholson undoubtedly came through the Wallkill Valley, from off toward the Pennsylvania line, which was "out West" in those days. Wallkill Valley terminates about Kingston, where Nicholson crossed the Hudson to Rhinebeck, and went with his drove, via Pine Plains, to Washington Hollow. From the time Nicholson was absent, his traveling on horseback, and the route he must have come to Kingston (as he could not have crossed the mountains west of Kingston), all seem to indicate that he bought his drove somewhere along or near the line now traversed by the Erie Railroad. The Wallkill Valley runs southwest from Kingston (16 miles above here), and passes through Ulster and Orange counties, and this would be the natural route in leading stock from that section, or even further west, to get to Washington Hollow. The dam of Mambrino Chief must have been a well bred mare to have produced three such horses as *Goliath*, *Mambrino Chief* and the *Cox Horse*. This Cox Horse was as fast as either of the others. He was sold from here to Geo. Johnson, of New York, passed through the hands of Jas. Irving, and was owned for some time by A. Varian. He was a "whirlwind" to a sleigh, and on the roads out of New York he was the recognized "boss of the road," hitched in that way.

GEO. F. STEVENS.

It will be borne in mind that Kingston is in Ulster county, the next county west of Dutchess, and that the mare came from the west of Kingston, and perhaps not over sixty miles from that point. But even granting that she came twice or three times that distance, there is nothing in all the facts we have to show, or even suggest, that she

came from any other region than the interior of the State of New York.

Before going into other evidences which to my mind have an important bearing on the subject, I will present a statement of Mr. Ambrose Stevens, of Batavia, New York, a gentleman whom I had never met and did not know at the time I received the statement, except as he was known to the public. This statement is the substance of two letters by him, sent me after seeing the suggestion I made in regard to this subject, in the *National Live-Stock Journal*, to the effect that this mare was a Messenger Duroc. I have put the two letters together, and give them substantially as I received them, the italics being my own:

I notice your remark in regard to the dam of Mambrino Chief being a daughter of Messenger Duroc, he by Duroc, dam Vincenta by imp. Messenger. Allow me to tell you what I know of Messenger Duroc. In 1822 I saw him run at Oaks, in the town of Phelps, Ontario county, N. Y., three miles, and win. He was owned by Samuel Hayt (pronounced Hoyt). I was a visitor at Major Whitmore's, near Oaks, and the horse was there and remained till September, and was again brought back there in October, 1822. He was wintered at Maj. Whitmore's in 1822—23. I knew the horse perfectly well then. It is stated in the printed account of him, that he was foaled in 1820, but he was foaled in 1818, and was four years old in 1822. I know the fact that Vincent's certificate was changed as to date after I parted with the horse.

In 1829, Mr. Ulysses Stage, of the town of Stafford, Genesee county, N. Y., bought the horse of Hayt, and brought him to Genesee county, N. Y., and stood him in that year in Stafford. In the spring of 1830, my brother and myself bought him of Robt. F. Stage, the brother and administrator of Ulysses Stage, who was badly bitten by Messenger Duroc in the autumn of 1829, and died in consequence of it.

After the purchase by me and my brother, I made inquiry of Hayt and Whitmore about the history of the horse from 1822 to 1829. I knew the horse instantly in 1829, when I saw him at Stage's tavern, where he stood in 1829. I sought out Hayt, whom I knew in 1822, and in 1831 obtained his certificate as to the horse and his history (this latter a verbal statement, but which I reduced to writing at the time). He informed me that in 1824 he took the horse to Dutchess county, and made a season there. He made four seasons in Dutchess and Ulster counties. In three of those years, in the autumn, he brought him to Oneida and Seneca counties, N. Y. (in the last of which Hayt lived), and made fall seasons with him, and returned him to the East in the following spring. In 1828 he brought him home in the fall, and in the winter of 1828—29, sold him to U. Stage. In 1829 Stage stood him in Stafford. In 1830 my brother and I stood him at Batavia, Genesee county.

In the spring of 1831 I bought my brother's interest and stood him at Batavia; in 1832 at McFarland's, in Niagara, Canada, at the mouth of the Niagara river; in 1833, 1834 and 1835 at East Hamburg, Erie county, N. Y.,

and in July, 1835, he went to Kentucky, where he died, but at what date I do not know.

He was a very dark chestnut, legs, mane and tail the exact color of his body,—looked almost brown. He was large and powerful, a wonderful trotter untrained. I have driven him in a cutter  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles in 23 minutes, with two in the cutter. His get also trotted. He had been foundered, and his feet were badly contracted and needed great nursing, but if nursed he was all right. He was the best saddle-horse I ever backed—and in 1830 and in 1831, I often rode him in a gallop 20 to 40 miles a day, and have driven him in a cutter from Batavia to Buffalo,  $39\frac{1}{2}$  miles, in three hours and twelve minutes. His get were apt to have bad feet, if they took *his* or a brown color—bays and other colors would escape. The bad feet in the get would come on at four or five years old if it took the form of contraction—but if they were born with it, the feet were *rather large and soft shelled and flat, and they were always tender in feet from foals.*

Messenger-Duroc was a very large, commanding horse, straight in his neck, not carried high, very characteristic, had a square head, and full of will and courage. He was very level in his body and full muscled, his trotting action very fine, *no knee action* (like Lady Thorn in that regard), had a most wonderful constitution. Could always eat a bushel of oats (32 lbs.) per day. Could work all the time and never show fatigue. *He wanted beauty and airiness and style, but lacked nothing in real excellence.*

In all his get of a chestnut color—he was very dark chestnut—no white hairs ever showed. I never knew any of them but *dark chestnuts, bays, greys and browns.* In all the bays the white hairs showed, *and a grey toned leg in the bays and the browns was occasional; have seen it on all four legs.* The horse's dam was a grey without white (I never saw her.) *His colts matured very early, and were natural trotters as he was.* While he had a Duroc look, he had no Duroc action, nor temper. He was a Messenger in temper, will and courage. He was as steady in temper as a machine, and would go to his death. He was game to the last, and would, on call and forever, give you all there was in him, and there was in him all the material of a great horse. His get were like him, and were all *fit to work at three years of age.* He was plain in his head, which was square, angular, clean and courageous, not big nor vulgar, and set well on his straight neck. On coarse, big-headed mares, his colts were apt to get the dam's coarseness, and his plainness, and often from low-bred dams they showed general plainness, but always great substance, and fine size, even out of small mares. *They often wanted style.* I knew Mambrino Chief, both here (in Kentucky) and in New York. If I had been told that *Mambrino Chief* was a son of my horse, and time had consorted, I would not have doubted the assertion. My horse's colts, like himself, had all great levelness of trot, *but no knee action.* There was no difference in the get of my horse arising from color as to merit, but the chestnuts were very *apt to have bad feet*, contracted, while the bays and browns *were apt to go large in the feet.* The greys always came right in the foot—and he often got greys (nearly always) out of grey mares, and his bays were often roaned somewhat, and now and then a full bay roan. This was a marked feature of the get of



old imported Messenger; I knew three of his get that were full bay roans. I have known, altogether, full twenty horses and mares, the get of imported Messenger. I knew well Mambrino and Hambletonian.

Now, while my hand is in, I will tell you something about Stockholm's American Star. I saw him run and win his two-mile race at Poughkeepsie, in October, 1830. I was so struck with the horse that I tried to buy him for a stallion to get road horses. He was one of the *grandest horses I ever saw, fine size*, splendid dappled chestnut, quite dark, and dappled beautifully, had a white foot behind, a star and snip, arched neck, high withers (not like old Duroc there, and most of his get), had a neat head, level rump, and was altogether one of the grandest horses I ever saw. *His trotting action was splendid, and he had to be whipped to force him to a gallop.*

Mr. Stockholm told me that his dam was by Mambrino, son of Messenger, grandam by imp. Messenger, and I made a memorandum of it; and he agreed to consider my proposition to sell me the horse, but the treaty came to nothing. Stockholm represented the horse thoroughbred, and the horse showed it. He was very large. He ran a game race and would in this day *be a trotter of the first class.*

I knew old Duroc, he had no more trotting action than a cow; paddled with his forefeet, and could not have trotted in less than six minutes. As a roadster he was a brute, and all his get that took after him were no roadsters, and I knew many of them. Henry was the same as old Duroc. Of the hundred Diomedes and Archies I have known, I never saw one with trotting action.

I knew Mambrino Chief both in the East and here in Kentucky, and can say to you that he was not unlike Messenger Duroc in appearance and action, but not so neat and blood-like by far, nor so level or quiet in trotting action.

Your obedient servant,

AMBROSE STEVENS.

Soon after the appearance of my original chapter on Mambrino Chief, in the *Live-Stock Journal*, I received the following letter from Mr. Hayt, now a resident of the city of Milwaukee:

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 31, 1877.

H. T. HELM: Your postal card and *Live-Stock Journal* is received. I have given the subject an examination. I find Mr. Stevens in error in some of the history he gives of Duroc; the writer bought the colt of Reuben Vincent, town of Freedom, Dutchess county, New York, in the latter part of the winter of 1821; he was then coming three years old. The dam was brown instead of grey; the family from which she came I am not able to give. Mr. Vincent was a neighbor of mine, and I had a perfect knowledge of the dam as I had of the colt; she was 15½ hands, compactly made, deep chest, strong and well coupled at loin, heavy and muscular quarters, with limbs and hoofs almost unexceptionable, head rather large but clean, fine ear, neck rather long and straight. The Vincent family, in all that I knew, which was numerous, were all horsemen and were noted for the many fine horses they raised.

The dam of Duroc was valued by Mr. Vincent for her purity of descent.

I resided at Washington Hollow—old Duroc and Hambletonian both stood there for several years, and of both of their stock I have owned. This horse of the present subject of writing, favored his sire more than any of his get that I have ever seen, both in color, form and disposition—better limbs and feet I have yet to see than he had; a faster walker or surer footed I never rode. As to his trotting I know nothing, as he was never in harness while I owned him; and as to his having been foundered, it was done after I parted with him; nor have I ever heard or known of his get to be afflicted with defective feet. In the winter of '22 and '23 I sent him to my brother in Seneca Co., N. Y.; he had him trained by Whitemore, of Phelps, and run at Oaks Corners, from which time until I sold him to Stage in the spring of 1828, he stood for mares in Seneca and Tompkins counties and nowhere else. He never made a season in Dutchess or Oneida, as reported by Mr. Stevens; he was trained and run on several occasions after the close of the season, and was successful. There are those who knew him, the writer included, who believe he would have been Eclipse's superior had he the same advantages.

Mr. Kelsey, of Poughkeepsie, the then owner of old Duroc, tried to purchase the colt of Mr. Vincent; there was quite a contest between us to get him; the horse was owned by me until I sold him to Stage.

I have written a disjointed history hurriedly; if it clears up any doubts, I shall have answered your inquiry, but if I have not answered all your inquiries, I will most cheerfully do so on being informed.

Very truly yours,

S. HAYT.

P. S. It occurs to me since closing my letter, the dam of Mambrino Chief may have come from Messenger Duroc; he made two seasons, '25 and '26, at Ithaca and vicinity. His stock was highly prized and fine, and had mares from Delaware and perhaps from further east than there. Mr. Stevens has well described the horse as to his general make-up, but I differ widely from his opinion in regard to limbs and feet. I have never known one of his produce to be either spavined or curbed; I have owned a number of them, and known large numbers. It has always been regarded by myself and others, that the Durocs did not mature early. Most of the persons named at Washington Hollow in those inquiries are known to me, and there must be those who remember my horse, as I kept him there a year. The horse partook largely of his sire, disposed to bite; but Mr. Stevens is in error when he says he bit Stage and caused his death. I was with Stage and know his death was from another cause.

S. H.

In response to my inquiries, Mr. Geo. T. Williams has given me the following letter:

I was the owner of Mambrino Chief from the time he was between three and four years old, and in part until he went to Kentucky. I knew his dam and her other sons by Mambrino Paymaster, Goliath and the Cox Horse. They were all gaited substantially alike—big, open gaited; Goliath was the biggest gaited of the three—more noted in this respect than any other Mambrino Paymaster stock I ever knew. I knew the stock very well, and never knew any such mark as a grey leg in the family. The mare that produced the

Chief, was a square, open or big-gaited animal, and a free and loose goer; a mare of great power, and for one used as she was, a strong goer—could probably trot in four minutes or better. She was a mare that possessed the characteristics of the horse Messenger Duroc, as described by Mr. Stevens, in a very strong degree, and she transmitted them to her colts. The feet of Mambrino Chief were just such as Mr. Stevens describes. His foot was a fine-looking foot, but it could not stand work, he threw out quarter cracks. I had one colt by him that did the same thing.

GEO. T. WILLIAMS.

That the qualities of Mambrino Chief were due in large part, if not mainly, to his dam, has been regarded, by those in any degree familiar with the subject, as almost certain. Mambrino Paymaster produced no such stock as the three sons of this mare from any other, and the fact that she did not succeed with any other, establishes the fact that their greatness was owing to the reunion of separate lines of the trotting blood of old Messenger. We are familiar with the various trotting elements that have come to the surface in this country, and we do know, as an established fact, that the blood characteristics of Mambrino Chief were none other than those manifested by the blood of Messenger, modified by one other element, which in this case we are clearly able to identify, and which also aids us in establishing the breeding of this mare.

This mare was probably foaled about the year 1828 to 1830, perhaps one or two years before that date. The characteristics of Mambrino Chief and his stock, down to the second and third generations, point with unerring certainty to Messenger Duroc as the sire of his dam. She was probably fifteen years old when she produced the Chief. Her large feet, and those of the family since, with their flat bottoms, found their prototype, not in Ohio corn, but in the blood of old Duroc. The family are yet noted for a broad, flat foot that frazzles and breaks readily about the edges.

The dam of Messenger Duroc was a brown mare, by Messenger, and the infirmity of feet in his stock was greater in those of the bay or brown color than when their color showed that the stock leaned toward the Messenger type. He often produced greys, and especially if that color was reinforced in the dam; and in his other produce, the bays and browns, a grey leg would now and then appear. Such would be most likely the case if in these the blood of the grey Messenger was also reinforced—and right here we find a witness that still testifies of the blood of that mare. Mambrino Chief had a family badge, in the shape of a grey right hind leg—from the hock to the foot.

It was not distinct in colthood and early life, but all his Kentucky acquaintances have this grey leg in clear remembrance. He put that grey leg on about one-fourth to one-third of all his produce. Mambrino Patchen wears it, and in turn transmits it to many of his produce. I have one of them. Joe Hooker, that one of all of his sons which was said to resemble him most, wore the badge in full. Almont, his grandson, has it now plainly and increasing. Ristori, by Volunteer, dam by Mambrino Chief, thus acknowledges her family lineage. Messrs. Haight, Taber, Williams and Sharpstein, all agree in the statement to me that this trait never belonged to the family of Mambrino Paymaster. It points to Messenger Duroc unmistakably.

I here repeat *in verbis* a part of my argument in the chapter relating to Duroc, wherein I called attention to the matter of anatomy—the long thigh of the Duroc family. This matter of measurement, about which some people have much to say, yet know as little as they do about horses, never having studied or learned anything about either, has its value here. By the anatomy of the Duroc family are they distinguished, even to remote generations, as I know of no other family on this continent. Duroc had a long thigh, and this thigh he transmitted and yet transmits, even to his remote descendants, unless counteracted by other bloods alike strong and positive in their character. It was not a Diomed characteristic, but it belonged to Duroc. The Diomed and Sir Archy families have not generally a thigh over 23 inches in length, but the Duroc family in all its remote branches, displays one of 24 inches and upwards.

The American Star family, with their single cross of Duroc, and only 15 hands 2 inches in height, have a thigh 24 inches in length—the larger ones, Bolton and Socrates, have each one 24½ inches; while Smuggler, a remote descendant of Duroc, can show as fine hind-quarter action as any horse in the world, and trot very fast on a 24-inch thigh. It is also seen that the length of the thigh bears some reference to the number of Duroc crosses the animal carries. Thus Brownwood by Blackwood, dam by McDonald's Mambrino, having two Duroc crosses, has a thigh 24½ inches; the present Messenger Duroc, of Chapter X, with his five crosses of Duroc, has one 25 inches, and his son Ellwood, with his ten direct crosses, and not so tall on the rump by two inches, has one also 25 inches; Prospero is also 25 inches.

This feature of the Duroc cross is one that is found with more certainty than any other anatomical characteristic that I know of any-

where. In the Mambrino Chief family the long thigh is universal, unless controlled by an overpowering concentration of Sir Archy or other racing blood, as in a few instances. Administrator has a thigh  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches; Mambrino Patchen,  $24\frac{1}{2}$ ; Idol, 24; Mambrino Eclipse, 24; Mambrino Star, 24; North Star Mambrino, 24; Woodford Mambrino, 24; Mambrino Gift, 24; Mambrino Kate,  $24\frac{1}{4}$ ; Mambrino Excelsior,  $24\frac{3}{4}$ ; Proctor,  $24\frac{3}{4}$ ; Blackwood and Swigert, each  $24\frac{1}{2}$ . These two latter were from daughters of Mambrino Chief; their sire Norman, descended from Messenger stock, was not so long; he produced Lula and May Queen, mares 15 hands 1 inch, and each had a thigh  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches; also Sue Letcher, the dam of Neely's Henry Clay, and she a large mare, has a thigh 23 inches, and all these show that the long thigh came from the Mambrino Chief family. Again, Almont, a horse 15 hands 2 inches, has a thigh  $24\frac{1}{2}$ , and Thorndale, 15 hands 2 inches, has one 24, both from Mambrino Chief dams; and their sire also produced Pacing Abdallah, a horse 15 hands  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, with a thigh  $22\frac{1}{2}$ , and Goldsmith Maid, 15 hands 1 inch, and  $22\frac{3}{4}$ —which also proves the same point.

We often see the statement that the early Messenger trotters did not trot so wide apart behind as we now frequently observe. The Messenger horse was a horse with a short thigh, and the short-thigh trotters all trot close: Happy Medium,  $22\frac{1}{2}$ ; Hambletonian Prince, 22; Cuyler, 15 hands 3 inches,  $23\frac{1}{4}$ ; Lakeland Abdallah, 15 hands 2 inches,  $22\frac{1}{2}$ ; Edward Everett, 15 hands  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches,  $22\frac{1}{2}$ ; Geo. Wilkes, 15 hands, 22; Lucy, 15 hands 2 inches, 20; Gen. Knox, 15 hands 2 inches,  $20\frac{1}{2}$ ; Tattler, 15 hands 2 inches,  $22\frac{1}{4}$ ; Orient, 15 hands  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, 23; Hopeful, 15 hands 1 inch,  $21\frac{1}{2}$ ; Gov. Sprague, 15 hands 2 inches,  $23\frac{1}{4}$ . The above list indicates the length of thigh in trotters that have no near Duroc blood.

When the Duroc blood came in, the long thigh widened out the position of the hind legs, and this wide open gait is so attractive to some that it is early seized upon as a sure indication of coming greatness in the trotter. The Star family all show the wide gait, although they possess only one cross of Duroc blood, sandwiched between two and perhaps three crosses of Messenger, and one of Henry, another short-measure horse. It must be borne in mind, however, that while the form and peculiarities which give type to the Star gait came from the Duroc cross mainly, that gait is not the Messenger Duroc gait. The Henry cross exerted a controlling influence over the conformation of the American Star family, and greatly modified the Duroc

gait. But the gait of Mambrino Chief and all his family, including the Almonts, is essentially Messenger Duroc, and is one that is recognizable anywhere. It is not the gait of the Mambrino or the Mambrino Paymaster family. Mambrino produced Almack, and he, in turn, the Champion family; and the gaits of all these bear a close resemblance to the elastic, propelling, rear-reaching gait of the Abdallahs, but totally unlike the Messenger Duroc element. This cross had such long thigh, and such long bone from stifle to the whirlbone joint, and at the same time lacked in the flank room or distance from the stifle to the hip, that the motion of the hind limbs involved such a folding up of these members, with so little room for it, that it gave the horse a sprawling motion—spreading out at the stifle—and a wabbling style about the hindquarters wholly unlike the even, elastic tread of the Abdallah and Champion families. Any one who has seen a three-year-old Almont and one of the same age by the present Messenger Duroc turned loose in a lot, can not have failed to recognize the great similarity, I may say identity, of their gaits; they lift the hocks high and are showy fellows. The Blackwoods train in the same school; and this gait prevails in all the Mambrino Chief family, but is greatly modified in the Ericsson branch, by the long measure from hip to hock of Mrs. Candle, the New York bred mare that produced Ericsson, a branch of the family which I have shown had, in addition to the long thigh, a long reach from hip to hock, and a gait very similar to the Royal Georges.

It is important that it be kept in mind that all these peculiarities of gait in the different families of trotters come from peculiarities in the physical conformation and nervous organism of those various families, and are alike inheritable and at the same time unmistakable evidences of family lineage. No blood traits are more certainly transmissible, or more clearly recognizable.

Again, the Messenger family and their descendants, the Hambletonians, have not been known as early trotters or in any respect early maturers, but the stock of Messenger Duroc, we are told, were grown at three years and ready for work. It was one of the characteristics of his produce, and has been transmitted, beyond all doubt, to the descendants of Mambrino Chief. It is in this family that we have heard so much of *baby trotters* in recent years.

Another testimony of an unquestionable nature is found in this, that the blood of old Duroc was known and recognized in his lifetime as tainted, and infected with a tendency to spavins, curbs, and ring-

bones, and this taint he has transmitted with fatal certainty, wherever strong and positive currents of his blood prevail. In Chapter V, I called attention to the statement of one who knew the horse well while living, and who asserted that the horse was himself spavined, and that such was the tendency of his blood in his descendants. The long thigh and the sickle hocks and curbs of the American Eclipse family, were among their most noted characteristics. The happy adaptation of the blood of Eclipse to the production of trotters, led to the breeding of Mambrino Chief to many Eclipse mares. Thus the Duroc blood was doubled, and with it the tendency to curbs and spavins was greatly intensified. My attention has been called to the fact that the very excellent stallion Idol, by Mambrino Chief, whose dam was an Eclipse mare, has produced several that were curbed and otherwise defective, and the case of Giraffe by Alhambra, similarly bred dam by Idol, and several others, are now before me bearing testimony to the baneful effects of in-breeding the Duroc blood, and thus intensifying its pernicious tendencies. Bear it in mind that Alhambra and Idol are both highly bred and very valuable horses, as I have shown in Chapter X and shall further show in Chapter XXIII, in the further progress of this subject; and, while I would do them no injustice, the truth must be told. I have no unfriendliness for any of these stallions, on the contrary, admire the good qualities of each of them very much, and have been a patron of many of them; but I am not friendly to unsoundness in any form, and regard my duty to the reading public more than I do the sensitiveness of any parties interested in such animals.

In Chapter V, I have fully treated of this subject relating to the blood traits of Duroc, and the tendency toward infirmity. While such was the inherited taint that has been transmitted, in greater or less degree, to all of his descendants, it will be borne in mind that it is only to the repeated crosses and intensified currents of that blood that I object.

It is sometimes necessary to exercise the most extreme care in regard to reuniting separate channels of an infected blood, such as that of Duroc and Henry, as it often happens that while two parents in themselves are sound and free from blemish, the concentration of the blood in the produce renders them unsound and worthless. Two illustrations of this have occurred in my own experience as a breeder. A mare by Searcher, he by Barney Henry, by Signal, a descendant of Henry, was an animal of fine form, and could trot in 2:42, perfectly

sound. She produced a filly by a grandson of Roe's Abdallah Chief, a horse that was himself a marvel of health and soundness, and never produced an unsound foal to my knowledge except in this instance. This filly, at three years old, gradually, and without any apparent strain or injury, developed lame and unsound hocks, and eventually curbs. Roe's Abdallah Chief had two Duroc and one Henry cross, and the slight reinforcement found in the Searcher mare brought out the latent current of unsound blood. Another: a mare by Post Boy, son of Henry, was bred to Blackbird, whose dam was by the same Post Boy. A spavined hock came out of the union, and in turn she transmitted this to her produce. Breeders of great intelligence, and having high appreciation of the blood of Eclipse, found by disastrous experience that this blood could not safely be united with that of Mambrino Chief, or his sons Idol and Alhambra, whose dams were by Eclipse, and that the produce of these two stallions could not safely be in-bred together. It was often tried, but almost uniformly with evil results. The union of remote strains was often effected with success, as in the case of Mambrino Eclipse, whose dam was by Zenith, a son of Eclipse, and Mambrino Patchen, dam by Gano, son of Eclipse. These last two stallions bred very sound stock, not in any respect noted for the defects above referred to. And it by no means follows that the produce of Mambrino Chief and an Eclipse mare would be unsound, or that such a stallion would necessarily breed unsound stock. Such would, beyond doubt, be the tendency, and it would certainly manifest itself if such a stallion was again crossed upon mares having similar elements of unsoundness. Idol is a very sound, and a very valuable stallion, and his produce are, in the main, quite sound and strong, and Alhambra has produced some animals that are very superior, and entirely free from defect. Many instances have occurred within my own observation, showing the utter worthlessness of the produce of two animals of this blood, each in themselves apparently quite sound, and noted as superior breeders.

Such was Duroc blood, and such are the blood characteristics, in less degree but in unmistakable form, of the Mambrino Chief family. These blood traits did not come from Mambrino or any other son or daughter of Messenger. Such traits, running through a family with such all-prevailing generality, constitute one of the most reliable evidences of consanguinity, and, taken in connection with the proofs already exhibited, render the case perfectly convincing that the dam of Mambrino Chief was a mare of Duroc and Messenger blood.



But there is one more evidence equally convincing and far more agreeable to present, and of far greater value and more attractive when presented.

The blood of Duroc, while it was tainted and was infectious in its tendency, and was certainly injurious if intensified by close and continued in-breeding, was in other respects one of great value. When it was properly supported and renovated by judicious outcrosses, it was not necessarily an unsound or contaminating agency, and, as allied with the blood of Messenger, it was an important trotting element. The blood of imported Messenger was crossed with that of several other thoroughbreds and part-bred animals, notably with that of Trustee and Expedition, both imported horses, and with other sons of Diomed. That of Duroc was also crossed with the blood of other thoroughbred and trotting strains; but nowhere was there a union of any of these elements that produced a trotting type so marked and lasting in its peculiarities as that of Duroc and Messenger. I have before stated clearly that I do not believe there was one particle of trotting tendency in the blood of any of the Diomed family; and I am confirmed in this opinion by the observation of those who lived in the day of his sons and early descendants. Certainly I can not credit Duroc with any such tendency, or with any other element of a trotter than a conformation of thigh and hindquarter peculiar to himself, and which had a tendency to develop and increase in his descendants, especially when in-bred, that greatly adapted them to the trotting gait; but I call the attention of those who deny the magical trotting qualities of the Messenger blood to the fact, that while Duroc was thus lacking in trotting tendencies in himself, his blood, in union with that of imported Messenger, *constituted royal trotting blood of the highest quality* we have ever seen on this continent. And it was so marked and noted in its own type and character as to stand by itself and give form and character to all the subsequent elements into which it has entered.

I have shown in Chapter V, that the dam of Duroc was by Grey Diomed, a son of imported Medley, and that he was a son of Gimcrack, a horse foaled in England in 1760; like Duroc, a horse described as having a *long and powerful thigh, with hocks well let down*. It is also worthy of note that the Medley cross has always ranked as a good one in our trotting families. I have no doubt that in greater or less degree the Medley family showed this marked peculiarity of Gimcrack and Diomed, although they have possessed

it in small degree, while his granddaughter, Amanda, transmitted it to Duroc in greater degree than was ever seen in any other member of the family. That would be no anomaly.

I have shown that in the case of Tippoo, the supposed son of Ogden's Messenger, there was a gait and a conformation, not entirely identical, but quite analogous to this, and that it was traceable to Gimcrack in about the same degree as the peculiar conformation of Duroc. To any one who has studied the matter closely, nothing is more clear or unmistakable. The manner, gait and character of the horse all declare it.

Every descendant of Seely's American Star, of Mambrino Chief, and Almont or Thorndale, attests, in his way of going, his wide open gait, and the peculiar action of the thigh and quarters, the presence of the Duroc-Messenger union. Messenger Duroc was by Duroc, from a daughter of Messenger, and was a thoroughbred. The first American Star was similarly bred, according to all traces that have come down to us. And let me ask, where have such trotting elements been found in or exhibited by any other two thoroughbred horses this country has ever produced? Both of these were trotters, and from the last one and a mare by Henry, the little grandson of Diomed and out of another daughter of Messenger, came the American Star, whose fame as a trotter and the sire of trotters and the dams of trotters, forms one of the brightest pages of our trotting history. It is clear this last horse received nothing but his defects and imperfections from Henry; his greatness as a trotter, and the richness of the trotting elements he carried, came from the Duroc-Messenger blood of which he was composed.

The pure and rich qualities of this blood are seen in Volunteer and in all his descendants. Its intensified trotting quality is seen in the American Star family, but tainted and greatly corrupted by the infirmities incident to in-breeding the Duroc and Henry blood, and in the Mambrino Chief family its royal trotting quality, greatly reinforced by the union of the Messenger strains coming through Mambrino Paymaster, found their richest field of development and display, marred, however, by the fact that the low-bred ancestry of the dam of Mambrino Chief also furnished a suitable field in which to manifest and develop the innate and deep-seated taint of the Duroc blood. It is thus that the high and the low are compelled to run in the same channels, but the wise breeder will be careful which element he will reinforce.

It may be well to recur to the ascertained history of the dam of Mambrino Chief. She died in 1857, and was supposed to be near thirty years of age. Twenty-seven to twenty-eight years seems to be the age generally attained by members of the Messenger and the Duroc families when properly used. She was probably foaled about the year 1828 to 1830, and she came either from the county of Ulster or some county west, southwest or northwest of that county, and not over one hundred and fifty miles distant. It will be remembered that at this period Messenger Duroc made his spring seasons in Ulster and Dutchess counties, and was taken in the fall of these years to Oneida and Genesee counties, over the precise path, probably, traveled by the man Nicholson, when he brought the brown mare to Dutchess county. It will also be seen that this mare possessed, in an eminent degree, the qualities of a daughter of Messenger Duroc from the common-bred stock of the country. More than that, such a daughter would, of all others, possess the exact qualities requisite to produce such a horse as Mambrino Chief, from such a sire as the son of Mambrino, a grandson of imported Messenger. Moreover, the dam of Mambrino Chief must of necessity have possessed the exact qualities we have seen should properly have been found in a daughter of Messenger Duroc, or she could not have given such qualities to Mambrino Chief, and he possessed them in a very striking degree.

More than all this, we are so far acquainted with the blood traits and characteristics of all our American-bred horses as to be able to declare, with absolute certainty, that such qualities as she possessed were at that period nowhere found on this continent save in a common descendant of the two horses Messenger and Duroc. This we know absolutely, for such qualities have not been exhibited by any other families, and they were exhibited in the produce of this horse Messenger Duroc. Hence, a full survey of the field, and all the evidence, leaves upon my mind the conviction, as an absolute and moral certainty, that a daughter of Messenger Duroc was the dam of Mambrino Chief. The trotting gait of Messenger Duroc, as described by Mr. Stevens, will be recognized by every one familiar with any part of the Mambrino Chief family. They are free and ready travelers, and go with level heads, steady and true. There is no quit about them, but they will go for all there is in them—full of courage and good temper. They are not up to the highest standard in point of quality, but an exceedingly pliant and fertile field on which to engraft the fixed and rich strains of the Abdallah and Hambletonian families.

In matters relating to the descent of horses we are compelled very often to receive evidences of this character, and they have great weight in the absence of certain and positive facts of paternity and maternity clearly shown.

The coincidence of time *and* locality, the precise period when this mare should have been produced, and the precise region where and when this horse was located; the possession by her of his precise qualities, and the transmission of those qualities, together with certain *personal* peculiarities; together with the clearly known and well-recognized fact that the traits and characteristics of the Mambrino Chief family are now and continue with great force and clearness those of the Duroc-Messenger blood; and further, that no other stallion of that union is shown to possess the same coincidence of time and locality,—these facts and evidences must be accepted as establishing the origin and paternity of this mare.

Her own history and character, aside from that which pertains to her origin, are worthy of a careful study.

She was not a roadster from use and development. She was used by a farmer, in a hilly country, to haul farmers' truck and products to the market of towns some miles distant. She generally drew a one-horse wagon, a sort of gardener's or farmer's truck wagon. In addition to this, she was used on the farm for the various single and double team work of the farm. She was not driven in a buggy, or a sulky, or any of the light vehicles used now for fast work or to call out speed. But for all this slow routine of farm drudgery, she could trot home from the market, a distance of seventeen miles, at a rate that caused her to be regarded as an old mare of more than ordinary capacity and quality.

She attained the age of about thirty years, showing by her endurance that she possessed the blood and stamina of some long-lived and well-bred family.

She lived in a county where good blood was not scarce. The great Mambrino, son of Messenger, had spent all his days, or the greater part thereof, and died on an adjacent farm. Hambletonian, son of Messenger and sire of Harris' Hambletonian, the Green Mountain trotting sire, had left much of his stock in the same county.

Duroc was owned and kept part of his life in the same county. Bellfounder had spent part of his days in service in the same county. It had been noted for the breeding of its horses from the earliest days.

In this county this mare was regarded as a good one, and raised the then greatest trotters and the greatest trotting stallion ever produced in the county. She produced two of these, including the great trotting sire, from a horse that had no character as a trotting sire, except that which was latent and suppressed and could only be called out by a mare that possessed just such qualities as a Duroc-Messenger—close and strong in the blood of that union—and one which in his entire life never found the precise elements and qualifications requisite for such a success save in this one mare.

Moreover, she was a mare with many elements of coarseness and a possible background of low breeding; but for all that, the qualities she presented ready for use, those which gave her character, were of the best that could have been found in any combination. If she could have only found such a stallion as Abdallah or Royal George, she would have produced a trotting sire that for impressiveness and grand trotting quality would have surpassed Hambletonian as far as the latter surpassed Ohio Bellfounder. The one great lament of the enthusiastic breeder must forever be that this mare did not mate with one or the other of these great trotting stallions; and this must go hand in hand with the other undying lament that some great daughter of Mambrino Chief—old Lady Thorn, Jessie Pepper, Monogram, Blandina, or Fayette Belle—did not mate with the great Hambletonian.

It remains to be noticed that, while the original union of the blood was formed by the Diomed sire on the Messenger dam, the richer fruits came out when the union of Mambrino Paymaster on the Messenger Duroc dam occurred; and in like manner since that cross, the union of the Messenger-bred sire on the Duroc-Messenger, or Mambrino Chief dam, has been productive of the best results. It is not believed that the reverse order of crossing will be in any degree advantageous in the early stages of the union, although we have abundant evidence that the remote Duroc cross in the Duroc-Messenger union is often found in a superior and highly impressive stallion, such as Administrator, Almont, Volunteer and Governor Sprague. I have been assured by two gentlemen, each of whom know the earlier sons of Duroc from Messenger mares, that, in the apparent characteristics of the two horses, those of Messenger predominated, in gait, appearance and general ways and manner, but that in the next generation, or the produce of these Duroc-Messenger stallions, the Duroc gait and ways were more apparent, and that in successive generations

the tendency was strong toward the Duroc character. They each agreed that American Eclipse was a Messenger, but that his produce were generally Durocs. This is an interesting, but a very singular fact, and shows that this peculiar conformation of Duroc, which shapes and controls in the matter of gait, is a progressive one. No one can doubt this who studies our Duroc-Messenger families. The Ahmonts, Blackwoods and Swigerts are strongly Duroc gaited.

While this Messenger Duroc blood displays such high qualities as a trotting element, it must be kept in mind that it is only where the Diomed is kept under proper control by the superior virtue and strength of the Messenger that such quality exists, this being the only constituent that can with safety be strengthened by in-breeding. We hear no complaint from any quarter of too much of the latter blood. No pedigree is regarded as tainted, unsound, or lacking in stamina, in consequence of a superabundance of that element. Unlike all others, it exists in its greatest purity and richest exuberance of action and power where there is most of it. Not so with the Duroc or any of the other Diomed strains. As they are reinforced by kindred elements, the taint of unsoundness is intensified, and the tendency toward the trotting gait disappears.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### DESCENDANTS OF MAMBRINO CHIEF.

MAMBRINO CHIEF went to Kentucky in the spring of 1854. His home for the first years of his Kentucky life was at Ashland, a place celebrated in the history of this country as the home of the great and honored Henry Clay.

This place, made famous by the residence of the illustrious orator and statesman, is located about one mile east of the city of Lexington, and in full view of the monument, which stands in the cemetery on the western limits of the city, and commemorates the fame of Kentucky's great son. At Ashland, the great trotting sire was kept until 1857, when he was sold to Messrs. Gray & Jones, of Woodford county, and was taken to the place of Col. Jones, and remained there until his death in 1861.

As the fame of Mambrino Chief may be said to have commenced with that of his great daughter, Lady Thorn, I begin my sketch of his produce with his daughters, and first of all others, the mare of wonderful organism and high renown,

#### LADY THORN.

She was foaled in 1856, and consequently came from the second year's service of the Chief. So much has been written concerning the history of this mare that I shall not attempt to rewrite it in full, but shall avail myself of parts and portions of that which has been written by others, and shall present full extracts taken from two sketches that have been given to the public, one by Dr. L. Herr, of Lexington, Kentucky, and the other by J. H. Sanders, editor of the *National Live-Stock Journal*. Dr. Herr was the early owner and trainer of the mare, and while these pages are not devoted to the personal history and character of owners or breeders of horses, I deem it proper to make some reference to one whose life and professional attainments have so intimately associated him with the

breeding and management of trotting horses. Dr. Herr is now past sixty years of age, has lived at Lexington for many years, is a gentleman not large in stature, but has at his command all the attainments ever reached in his line of business in the highest state of development and practice. A gentleman of the highest degree of intelligence, never lacking in the instincts and proprieties which become a man who is the acknowledged head of his profession or occupation, and one who in the midst of all the jealousies, rivalries and personal detractions, incident to the business which has been that of his life, never needs the aid of any one in attending to his business, and never squanders any time in looking after the business of another. The city and community in which he lives, abound with those who are connected with the production and management of blood horses, and it is safe to say that no place in America presents so great a number, a list so capable, and of such high respectability and integrity. In all the list, Dr. Levi Herr stands without a rival or a peer. In the extracts which I make from his sketch of Lady Thorn, it is well for the reader to understand the eminent ability of the author. He is also the owner of the full brother of the great trotting mare, and his reputation and success in business life, both very great, have been and are intimately connected with this fact, and no one ever yet saw the day when the Doctor was not in the strict path of business.

Lady Thorn was bred in Fayette county, Kentucky, by Levi T. Rodes, his father William Rodes being owner of the dam. When she came to maturity, she was a large bay mare, full sixteen and a quarter hands high. Her dam was by Gano, a son of American Eclipse, and her grandam was by a son of Sir William. The dam of Gano was Betsy Richards, by John Richards, son of Sir Archy, and this Sir William, whose son was the sire of her grandam, was by Sir Archy from the mare called Transport, and was called Sir William of Transport.

Gano was a good and strong race horse, and had, it will be observed, one line of Messenger blood, coming through the dam of American Eclipse, Miller's damsel, a daughter of Messenger.

I take the following, with slight and immaterial changes, from the sketch by Dr. Herr:

Going back to the great grandam of Lady Thorn and Mambrino Patchen, we find that she was a bay, 15½ hands high, of fine style, and showing great quality and blood in every part. She was, moreover, entirely sound, without blemish, and lived to a very great age, besides being a natural pacer. Mr. Levi Rodes, whose father owned her, says he never knew her to depart from



the pace. She would lead the horses in their playful frolics in the pasture' she pacing and the others running. She produced the Sir William mare, the grandam of Lady Thorn, and Mambrino Patchen.

*Lady Thorn's Grandam.*—This was a sorrel mare, with a blaze face, and four white legs; was  $15\frac{1}{2}$  hands high, and also, like her dam, a natural pacer. She was used by the father of Mr. Levi Rodes as a first-class and sure-footed saddle mare; perfect, sound and long-lived. She looked like a thoroughbred, and was by a son of Sir William. The foregoing is all that Mr. Rodes can remember of what his father said about the breeding of this mare. She produced the dam of Lady Thorn, and Mambrino Patchen; also a chestnut mare by Post Boy.

The dam of Lady Thorn was raised and bred by William Rodes, of Fayette county, Ky. The mare to which attention is now directed, was a blood-bay,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  hands high, with all the best characteristics of the thoroughbred about her, showing high quality at all points. Her legs and feet were like polished steel, she was beautifully proportioned and balanced in her form—no mixture of good and bad, large and small points, but as stated, any one part admirably answering to the co-related part throughout. Eyes large and perfect; carriage elegant, with extra tail. Her regular trot seemed as though it could not be improved, so extraordinarily regular and machine-like were the movements. Stride elastic, level, open; and her bottom of the best.

The dam of Lady Thorn produced several other foals; Lady Thorn was her fourth, her seventh was the stallion Kentucky Clay, by Strader's Cassius M. Clay Jr., and her eighth and last which survived, was Mambrino Patchen, the brother of Lady Thorn. The old mare, afterward in foal to Mambrino Pilot, was sold to Charles S. Dole, Esq., and removed to Chicago, and Mr. Dole having left her with a person who neglected her, she died in a lot north of the city, and not far from the present site of Ravenswood; she died at her foaling time, and the foal was also lost. Dr. Herr further says:

#### HISTORY AND BREEDING OF LADY THORN.

Mr. Levi T. Rodes, who, in 1855 and previously, owned the dam of Lady Thorn, bred her to Mambrino Chief, and the produce in 1856 was Lady Thorn. After she was a year old past, Mr. Levi T. Rodes broke her to sulky, and this gentleman informs me that she was naturally kind, and showed no disposition to kick or be vicious in any way. When she was two years old, Mr. Rodes sold her to Mr. Henry Dunlap—price, \$300, and two boxes of plantation cigars. Both the parties to this transaction were of Fayette county, Ky. Mr. Dunlap drove her single and double the summer and fall she was two years old; and did so with and without blinds, at all hours of the night. Mr. Dunlap was fond of playing billiards, and although I was not keeping a public stable, he insisted on putting up his driving horses with me, my place being convenient to where he used to amuse himself, and from which it was not unusual for him to start for home as late as 12 or 1 o'clock in the night—

he driving the Lady on those occasions. I mention this to show that previous to the mishap, due to an accident, she was entirely kind to all harness. Late in that same fall I had her under treatment for distemper, and after she recovered and gained her natural strength and spirits, Dunlap borrowed a road sulky from me, and to it drove her for exercise the first time after recovering. I cautioned him regarding the risk he was taking in driving her on so cold a day, she feeling as playful as she did—but nothing short of driving her would satisfy him. Whilst being driven, under the harness she wore a heavy blanket, which came down below her knees and hocks, as was then fashionable. He drove her out on the Harrodsburg pike one and one-half miles, and in turning to come back a gale of wind struck the long blanket, and, as already intimated, as she was in a playful mood, besides feeling cold, she made a lunge and kick, and the result was she hung her left hind leg over the cross-bar and got thrown; and as there was no one to assist, there was considerable rolling and tumbling about on the pike before she could be extricated from the sulky. And thus in the imprudent and careless way described she was frightened, and it took me a good while to get her over it; but it should be remembered that she never ran nor got loose from a vehicle. In the winter coming three years old, I bought one-half interest in her, and afterward Mr. Dunlap sold me his remaining interest—this to be payable when I sold her. At three years old she trotted and received forfeits, some particulars respecting which I will give below—and it became evident that she could trot fast. At four years old she lost her speed, and could not beat 3:17, any way we could trot her. And yet she looked well, fed well, and was the picture of health, doing, in short, admirably in every particular, except that she could not send herself along the ground to make time. I bred her this season to Cassius M. Clay Jr., and concluded I would have every reason to expect something good, but she was not in foal. The spring she was five years old her speed came to her again, and she could just about fly, and continued to do well every season until I sold her, which I did when she was seven years old. During the most dangerous time of the war I sent Lady Thorn and Mambrino Pilot to Ohio for safety. Mr. Dunlap and I bought Lady Thorn's dam in partnership, and afterward I bought his interest. Lady Thorn was a blood bay, 16 $\frac{1}{4}$  hands high. She lost her eye by accident—an external injury. Her name, while owned by me and until she left Kentucky, was Maid of Ashland.

I shall now briefly enumerate Lady Thorn's trotting performances before she left Kentucky. The summer she was three years old, she was matched in three races. She received forfeit from two of these, and trotted the other against Capt. Thomas Steele's Snow Storm, three in five, which was won by Thorn in three straight heats, it not being necessary for her to display even an exercising gait, and not seeking to make time, was pulled all the way. In the fall she was trotted in the Lexington Stake. Kentucky Chief, the Stanhope mare, Ericsson, and Lady Thorn started. Ericsson and the Stanhope mare were distanced in the first heat. Lady Thorn, under the disadvantages of extra weight, a heavy road sulky, kicking and breaking harness, was second. She lapped on Kentucky Chief's wheel, and but for a mishap in the

second heat, would have won it and the race. She trotted under the drawbacks named, in about 2:52. At the Louisville Fall Meeting I entered her in the three-year-old race, against Kentucky Chief and others, all of which I had good reason to believe she could beat. In the race, after trotting in the lead, her bit broke, and having a nose band on her bridle, she was gradually taken up without any demonstrations of kicking or ill temper, and of course walked home and was distanced. In 1863, at the Spring Meeting, Louisville, Ky., I entered Thorn in a three-in-five race, free for all. Belle of Indiana and Thorn trotted for the purse, Thorn winning at her ease in three straight heats. The next day I entered her in the two-mile heat race, with Indiana Belle, Mountain Jack, and others; and Thorn won without ever being extended in any part of the race. My object was to drive her behind, in front and in the crowd occasionally; and then letting her work through the horses to the front, so as to test her in a crowd, etc. After which I sold her to C. P. Relf, of Philadelphia, Pa.

Lady Thorn was seven years old when she was sold by Dr. Herr. The residue of her history I take from the sketch given by Mr. Sanders:

Mr. Relf owned her until the fall of 1865, and during this time she was handled by Sam McLaughlin, who drove her in her first race with Dexter, at the Old Union Course. It was Dexter's second year on the turf, and he had already secured a record of 2:24½. The mare was two years older; but Dexter was regarded as a certain winner, for up to that time he had never been beaten. But it was Thorn's day. She won the first heat in 2:24, the second in 2:26½; Dexter took the third in 2:27, and the mare finished the race by taking the next heat in 2:26¼. This race was trotted June 12, 1865. McLaughlin won two races with her in 1863, the year that Mr. Relf bought her. The next year she did not do much good, and only won one race; but this was in very fast time, for she made a record of 2:24 in the second heat. She won two races in 1865, before Relf sold her—one in which she beat Dexter, and one with Frank Vernon and Stonewall Jackson.

In the fall of this year, Mr. A. Welch and J. D. McMann bought her, and they let Dan Pfifer have her to drive. He won a race with her that fall, beating George Wilkes and Lady Emma, the best heat being 2:27¼. The next year she won six races, but none of them were very fast. In 1867, she won five races, one of them being a two-mile race, to wagon; but the best one of the year was at Fashion Course, September 30th, when she beat Mountain Boy, Lucy and Bruno. Thorn got the first heat in 2:25¼, the Boy won the second in 2:24½, and then Thorn took the next two in 2:24 each, which shows how game a mare she was. In 1868, she beat nearly all the best horses on the turf—Lucy, George Wilkes, General Butler, Rolla Golddust, Rhode Island, Mountain Boy, George Palmer—and got her record down to 2:20½. Dan Pfifer drove her the first part of 1869, and beat American Girl twice, and Goldsmith Maid once; but in August, J. D. McMann took her himself, as Pfifer was sick.

The last race that Pfifer drove her was her first tilt with Goldsmith Maid,

and it was a hot one; but Thorn disposed of it in three heats in 2:21 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:20 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ . But the two mares met again a month later, at Prospect Park; and as it was the first time that McMann had driven her, a good deal of interest was awakened in the race. American Girl was also in this fight; but Thorn was again able to win in straight heats, and she put them all in close together—2:20 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:20 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:20 $\frac{1}{4}$ , which was the best race she had ever trotted up to that time. McMann won five more races with her that season; the last and best being at Narragansett Park, October 8th, when she beat Geo. Palmer, Goldsmith Maid, Lucy, and American Girl. This was the fastest race ever trotted up to that date. Thorn got the first, second and fourth in 2:19 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2:18 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:21, and Geo. Palmer got the third in 2:19 $\frac{3}{4}$ . This was the fastest race the old mare ever trotted, and the time made in the second heat is her best record.

In May, 1870, she was bought by Dan Mace, for \$20,000. Her first race in his hands was on the 4th of July, against George Wilkes and others, at Prospect Park. It was an easy race for Thorn, and she won in three straight heats. July 22d, on the same track, she had a race with Goldsmith Maid. This was looked upon by outsiders as pretty nearly an even thing; for although Thorn had beaten her in every race the previous year, yet people thought it was doubtful if she could do it now. But she won the race in three straight heats, without much effort. Her next and last race was at Rochester, N. Y., August 3d, when she beat Geo. Palmer in slow time; but displayed wonderful speed, trotting the last half of the third heat in 1:06.

Her next race after the Rochester race was to have been at Buffalo, and in loading her upon a railroad car, the movable platform was allowed to slip, and she fell, with her hip striking the iron rail of the railroad track, and the bone was broken—as it is generally styled, was knocked down—and that ended her trotting days. She was at this time very fast, and the public have been advised that in her then condition she gave such evidences of speed as to indicate that she would in her Buffalo race, make a time record that would stand as a defiant challenge for a long time ahead. Her driver and owner makes the statement that she was good for 2:10, and that he could drive her the last half mile of a race in 1:04. She closed her distinguished career on the turf with a record of 2:18 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and one hundred and six heats in 2:30 or better.

Soon after this unfortunate mishap the great trotting mare was sold to H. N. Smith, Esq., proprietor of the Fashion Stud Farm at Trenton, New Jersey, and sent to that place. She died on the 23d of June, 1877. While at the Fashion farm she was kept as a breeding mare and has left one son and a daughter, both by the stallion Gen. Knox, the former named General Washington, having been foaled on the 22d day of February, 1874.

Lady Thorn served two purposes, neither of which seem to have come in proper time. She showed the true greatness of Mambrino Chief, and she also gave proof of the quality and character of mares which should have been sent to him.

Her physical conformation has been often referred to and deserves special consideration. She had a long forearm and a short front cannon, 22 inches for the former and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches for the latter, and she trotted with a straight, unbending front leg. This has been adverted to by nearly every one who has written concerning her gait. Furthermore, her rear leverage and the gait which accompanied it should teach us an important lesson. Her propelling power seemed to be immense, and yet it worked with less apparent effort or display than is generally seen in trotters that have large machinery. She did not spread her feet wide apart behind, was no sort of a sprawler—but trailed her hocks low, reaching far out behind and advancing her feet forward further than any trotter ever seen on our turf. While she was a mare of great strength and displayed power in every stride, her trotting showed more the result of great and easy working machinery than of powerful muscular organism. In some families, as the sons of Edward Everett, the trotting excellence is shown to be the product of marvelous muscular power; in the case of Lady Thorn, it was due to her perfection of machinery. Her hind feet moved along in true lines, apparently under or alongside of her body, but the way in which she reached them forward and raked the earth from under her was a sight for all the beholders. Her rear conformation was entirely exceptional, and was not such as her blood composition or her family form would have indicated. She differed entirely from her full brother, Mambrino Patchen. He measures  $39\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the centre of his hip to the outer edge of his hock, and  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches in the length of his thigh, precisely what we might expect for a son of Mambrino Chief from a second Eclipse and Sir Archy mare. But Lady Thorn had a thigh only 23 inches in length, and from the centre of her hip to the outer edge of her hock she was 42 inches. This was the measurement of Dr. Herr. When I saw her in February, 1876, she measured 43 inches from the centre of the hip to the edge of the hock, but Mr. Conover and myself agreed that an allowance of at least one inch must be made for the forward projection of the sound hip, that one evidently to the eye being thrown forward by the other being down. Her high breeding and her immense machinery for trotting leverage made her the great trotter that she was, and there can be no

doubt that had she escaped accident and continued in health on the turf, she would have stood at the head of the list. I do not suppose she was one of the kind that, like Goldsmith Maid, could work on in that frictionless way and keep in ready repair at all times, each day evincing improvement until she reached the age of twenty years, but she would have attained a strength and a degree of speed that would have enabled her to now and then make a record which would have been rarely reached by the best trotters which have yet appeared.

Her greatness as a trotter is to be estimated by her known superiority over her famous competitors. They were Dexter, Mountain Boy, Goldsmith Maid, American Girl, Lucy, George Palmer. She was in her prime, and was showing a rate of speed which had not been attained at that time by any trotter, although she had not in any race equaled the time of Dexter, and her time has since been surpassed by nearly all of the great ones against whom she trotted in those days. But all who knew her regarded her as still good for the front place, and her chances for improvement were quite as good as any of the entire number. But her trotting career once ended she was long looked upon as the greatest mare for breeding purposes that this country had ever furnished, and of the correctness of this I have no sort of doubt.

She raised a son and a daughter by General Knox, but the great gulf of disparity between the two will raise doubts as to the propriety of the union, which can only be settled by the actual success of the progeny. The blood forces may have so worked that General Washington will reproduce in high degree the excellences of both of his parents; on the other hand, he may take after one in this particular and the other in a different, and no one can determine until the result is actually seen, what it will be. The two parents belong to classes far apart, and changes from one to the other in such cases must be made by gradual approaches.

When I saw General Washington as a two-year-old he showed in his general form much of the Mambrino Chief appearance. I have not seen him since, and have been unable to obtain the basis of a proper estimate. Great as the regret may have been over the accident by which the trotting turf lost so great a luminary, to my mind the greatest cause of regret is found in the fact that Lady Thorn was not sent to Hambletonian. The result would, in my opinion, have been (if a male) the most valuable stallion ever bred in this country. Hambletonian with his rear leverage of 41 inches,

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and Lady Thorn with her 42 inches, would, in all likelihood, have given us a stallion sixteen hands in height and of the most superior physical conformation, as well as the grandest combination of great excellences ever yet seen.

The unappropriated opportunity may in its suggestive lessons still have some value. When her own greatness as a mare is fully realized, and the substantial additions that have been made to our breeding stud and trotting stock through the other daughters of Mambrino Chief are considered, then are we prepared to form a proper estimate of the greatness of Mambrino Chief.

#### HER OTHER DAUGHTERS.

Jessie Pepper, foaled 1861, was a dark brown mare; her dam was by Sidi Hamet, her grandam said to be by Diomed. This mare was also trained and driven in races in Kentucky, and when driven very hard she showed excellent trotting quality and could trot in better than 2:40. She was blind for several years, and raised colts of both sexes. She was a very valuable brood mare, and it is not unlikely that some of her produce will attain to distinction. I have no list of her produce, but know her well.

The dam of Alta was from a mare by Grey Eagle, and a well bred mare. She produced Alta by American Clay, one of the most promising colts ever foaled in Kentucky. At six years he had a record in 2:32, and had trotted below 2:30. He died from accident. She has left other valuable produce.

Lady Eleanor was a large bay mare; her dam was a highly bred mare sent from Virginia to Major Thos. Moore, with instructions to breed her to the best trotting stallion in Kentucky. She was called a thoroughbred, and her pedigree accompanied her, but is now lost. She left one daughter by American Clay, now owned by myself. She was the dam of Western Chief by Curtis' Hambletonian, now owned in Minnesota. She produced a son by Mambrino Patchen that was a colt of fine size and trotting action. She also produced the mare Patchen Maid by Mambrino Patchen, now owned by Messrs. McFerran at Louisville, the dam of the stallions Marshall Ney and Massena, by Cuyler.

Lady Eleanor was one of the finest of the daughters of Mambrino Chief. She has been owned in later years by Col. H. S. Russell, of Boston.

Mag Ferguson—from a mare by Grey Eagle. This mare is the

dam of the stallions Piedmont and Almont Eagle—distinction enough for one mare. She is owned by Gen. W. T. Withers, of Kentucky. These two sons prove her value as a brood mare.

Monogram. This was a bay mare—not one of the largest, but one of the finest I ever saw. Her dam was, so far as can be ascertained, of unknown blood. She was sent by a Mr. Boice from South Carolina, to be bred to Mambrino Chief, then owned by Col. Willis F. Jones, near Versailles, Ky., and was said by those who knew her, to be a very fine animal, and a superior roadster. She had previously been purchased in the vicinity of the city of New York, and sent to South Carolina.

During the war Col. Jones took her back to her owner in South Carolina, who refused \$1,350 in gold for her, when one dollar in gold was worth from two to three in currency.

Monogram is one of Mambrino Chief's last get (as he died in 1861), and this mare was foaled in 1862. She is not only one of the finest and most perfect of the Mambrino Chief mares, but she has remarkably fine trotting action, and would doubtless have been very fast had she been trained. She has proved herself to be a brood mare of a very high order.

In 1870 she produced the colt Almont Chief, by Almont, bred by Col. Richard West, of Georgetown, Ky., who then owned the dam. Almont Chief was sold at two years old, at Col. West's auction sale in 1872, and brought \$2,475.

Maggie. This was a grey mare; her dam was by the Indiana pacer Red Buck. She was at one time owned and perhaps bred by R. A. Alexander. She was subsequently owned by Charles S. Dole, Esq., and by E. S. Wadsworth, Esq., of Chicago. She produced the black stallion Woodburn Pilot, by Pilot Junior. Woodburn Pilot was the sire of Argonaut, and was sold for \$10,000 to the Vermont Stock Company. He was certainly one of the best stallions ever produced in the State of Kentucky, but he got out of his latitude when he went to Vermont. The highly bred mares of Kentucky and the West, partly descended from the thoroughbred, were his proper field.

Blandina. The dam of this mare was the Burch mare, by Brown Pilot, son of Copperbottom, the dam of Rosalind, by Alexander's Abdallah. Blandina was the dam of Abdallah Pilot, mentioned in Chapter XI; and of Swigert, described in Chapter XXIV; and of several other animals highly prized. She was a valuable mare. She was owned at Woodburn farm, Kentucky, by the Messrs. Alexander.



Indiana is a black mare, foaled in 1859; her dam is given as by Bertrand. She has been a superior breeder. It is to be noticed that the greatest success either for trotting or breeding purposes among the daughters of Mambrino Chief, comes from the produce of mares that had only one or two crosses of racing blood. Indiana has borne one son, Pilot Mambrino, by Pilot Jr., a good horse, recently owned at Chicago. She has also borne the brown stallion Indianapolis, by Tattler, the son of Pilot Jr. Indianapolis has trotted a mile in 2:25½.

Fayette Belle was a large, dark bay or brown mare. Her dam was Young Flaxy, by Telegraph, a Kentucky horse, whose blood is not known to me. She was the dam of Mambrino Bertie, the fast young son of Mambrino Patchen, owned by Robert Bonner. She has in later years been owned by Harrison Durkie, of New York, and has been breeding to Blackwood. She was a very superior mare, and has left some valuable stock.

THE DAM OF BLACKWOOD was from a dun mare that came from Ohio, blood unknown. She was blind, and not regarded as a desirable mare. Being in foal to Norman, Mr. Alexander succeeded in disposing of her for a trifle, but the produce was a \$30,000 stallion, of which an account is given in the next chapter.

Young Portia—a brown mare, foaled in 1856. Her dam was Portia, by Roebuck, second dam by Whip. This mare stands in the front rank of all the daughters of Mambrino Chief. She has produced two stallions that are sufficient to give fame to a family. Her son Voltaire, foaled in 1868, now stands with a record of 2:21¼, and a winner of the Breeders' stake at Hartford, Conn., after a career of success unsurpassed in our turf history.

She also, in 1870, produced the chestnut stallion Portion, by the thoroughbred stallion Planet, which has shown a capacity for trotting excelled by few sons of a thoroughbred. He is now owned in Minnesota, and his career will be watched with much interest. Planet was a very superior stallion, by Revenue, a son of imported Trustee, and the superiority of this son of Young Portia will be often cited as proof of the trotting qualities of the Trustee family. If he attains to an eminence equal to that already achieved by Voltaire, the son of Tattler, it may be worth while to discuss the question of fitness or unfitness of Planet or the Trustees for trotting purposes. The merits of Young Portia, the daughter of Mambrino Chief, are not likely to be lost sight of in either case.

THE DAM OF ALLIE WEST was from a mare by Downing's Bay

Messenger, an exceedingly well bred mare. If her fame went no further than the distinction of having produced Allie West, it would be enough; for no greater stallion was ever bred in the State of Kentucky.

The DAM OF ALMONT was from a mare by Pilot Jr., and the second dam was a highly bred mare. Her son has attained unto so great an eminence that her fame seems to have disappeared in the lustre of his greatness. No particulars seem to have been given out with regard to her own merits or ability. Almont has become such a famous horse that we lose sight of the fact that he derived anything from a daughter of Mambrino Chief.

The same may be said of the DAM OF THORNDALE. She was also an exceedingly well bred mare. Her dam was one of those highly but part bred mares by Saxe Weimar, a thoroughbred—just the quantum of high breeding to make the dam of a trotter. She would have been an excellent mare for any cross, but especially for such as was furnished in Alexander's Abdallah. The champion of 1877, in his grand and well-balanced form, his high trotting quality, and immense bottom and game in a race, when he scored twenty-six times against a formidable combination, attests the superiority of both his own great sire, and the excellence of a daughter of Mambrino Chief.

The DAM OF BELMONT was from a daughter of Ohio Bellfounder. She was certainly a superior mare, and the quality of her blood is shown in the fine trotting qualities of the sons and daughters of Belmont—one of the strong characters of the trotting turf.

The DAM OF ADMINISTRATOR was produced by Mambrino Chief while in the State of New York. Her own merits are sufficiently shown in the greatness of the great Duroc Messenger, now at the head of the list of great stallions.

And if the list extended no further, what a fame to follow one name, that his daughters were the respective dams of such a list of great stallions as Administrator, Almont, Thorndale, Voltaire, Belmont, Blackwood, Swigert, Woodburn Pilot, Allie West, Portion, Piedmont, Pilot Mambrino, Indianapolis, Almont Chief, Almont Eagle, and Abdallah Pilot. When has America in any other stallion shown such a list of maternal renown?

In addition to the foregoing list he left many daughters that were esteemed valuable and which have left valuable female descendants, the dams of many younger but very excellent animals.

Bacchante Mambrino, was a grey mare with a long ear and calf-knees. Her dam was the mare Grey Bacchante by Downing's Bay Messenger, one of the early trotters of Kentucky, full sister of Tom Redd. This mare has produced the stallion Lucknow, and the mares Abby Bacchante and Jennie Hamilton, all by Lakeland Abdallah. Jennie Hamilton is owned by Stephen Bull, Esq., of Racine, Wisconsin, and is dam of a young son of Swigert, and Abby Bacchante is dam of Euripides and a filly, Rhody Bacchante by Governor Sprague, a highly prized family.

The stallion Joe Hooker had a sister, which should have left some good stock, if properly mated. The stallion Ericsson also had a sister called Psyche, but she was the most undesirable great brute I ever saw. I believe, however, she has been mated with Enfield, the son of Hambletonian and Julia McChree, but I am not advised as to the results.

Many thoroughbred mares were sent to Mambrino Chief, but they were not the best suited to his composition. Lady Montague was from such a mare. Her dam was Bellamira, by imported Monarch; 2d dam, Kitty Heath, by American Eclipse—a long pedigree, twelve generations of racing blood in length. She is the dam of the stallion Bismarck, by Hambletonian, and of another called Wissahickon, by Wm. Welch. The mare is not what I would select either as a good brood mare or as a good representative of the family of Mambrino Chief. I have seen her, but would prefer even the blind daughter of the dun mare from Ohio.

Trump is another daughter of Mambrino Chief that is, perhaps, a valuable one, as well as many others that have not become the dams of distinguished produce from the want of suitable mating.

The wide dissemination of the blood of Mambrino Chief through the daughters, while the name will disappear, will yet leave his impress on the American trotter to an extent, perhaps, not surpassed or even equaled by that of any stallion that has ever lived.

His service as a stallion only covered a period of eight years, of which anything is particularly known. Hambletonian served twenty-four years, and produced, perhaps, six hundred daughters, yet how rarely is the name of a Hambletonian given as the dam of a great trotter or stallion. Which of the two great sires will have the more numerous descendants twenty-five years hence?

## SONS OF MAMBRINO CHIEF.

In presenting the sons of this great sire, it will aid us in reaching a correct understanding of the breeding qualities of each to recur to the blood qualities of the Chief. He was a Duroc-Messenger. His sire was a grandson of Messenger, whose dam was a highly bred mare, perhaps tracing through near thoroughbred lines. His dam was a mare strong in Duroc and Messenger blood. As a sire he would display his consanguinity toward lines of similar blood. Those possessing combinations similar to his own would call out the high trotting and breeding qualities which he possessed in the most eminent degree. He was not a thoroughbred horse, although he had much of the blood qualities of such, and was only recently descended from such in all his lines. He had some road elements and these were of a very positive and controlling character. He would be an impressive sire with thoroughbred mares, especially if their blood composition was similar to his own, and he would display his grandest qualities and his greatest superiority with part bred but highly bred mares whose blood composition was similar to his own. He met just such a mare in the dam of his greatest daughter and his most distinguished son

## MAMBRINO PATCHEN.

We are justified in recurring to her breeding. She was a daughter of Gano, and Gano would have been exactly such an animal in blood composition as the dam of Mambrino Chief, had he come from a common or part bred road mare. His sire was by Duroc, from a daughter of Messenger, and such precisely was the sire of the mare that bore Mambrino Chief. The second dam of Mambrino Patchen was a part bred mare, by a highly bred or thoroughbred horse. She was a pacer, but that fact does not signify as much as many now assume. She would have been quite as good, had she been a road mare of trotting rather than pacing gait. Mambrino Chief, in the dam of Lady Thorn and Mambrino Patchen, found a mare bred almost exactly like his own dam, and of course much like himself. Hence, he would reproduce his own great qualities in great force and positiveness, and as there was superadded in the composition of this mare, a high degree of quality, or what we call blood, so the produce would be Mambrino Chief over again, but on a higher and more blood-like basis. Moreover, Mambrino Chief, as I have said, would show a strong impress with thoroughbred mares that had a blood

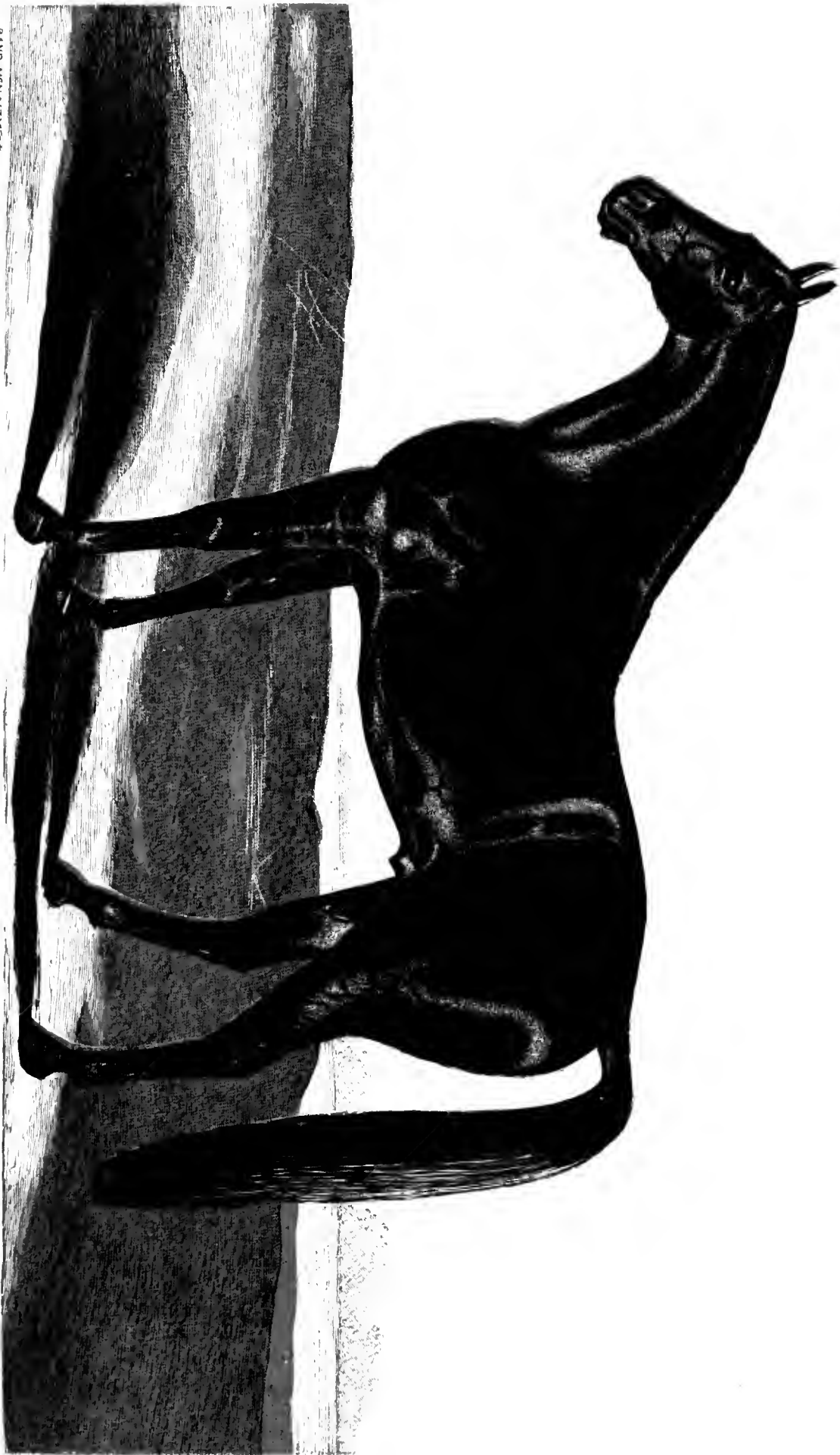
composition similar to his own, and in the produce of such, he would display his own superior trotting quality, and the only defect visible would result from the dissimilarity in quality between the two—between his coarseness and the extreme fineness of the thoroughbred mare. Such I have already shown was the case with his son Alhambra, a horse that illustrates both branches of the proposition last suggested.

I here insert the following historical scrap cut from Dr. Herr's sketch of his horse :

Mambrino Patchen was foaled in the spring of 1862, in my stable lot in Lexington, Ky., I being in the lot at the time. My faithful old negro, Elijah, even at this distant day, feels proud to tell that he was the first one who ever saw Mambrino Patchen. I always made it a rule to make some one sit up at night with valuable mares to watch their foaling, and old Elijah being reliable and experienced, was the one selected to take charge of such cases. It was my custom to promise him a present providing he saw a mare foaling, and let me know before she got through, and this he invariably did. At a yearling, I sold Mambrino Patchen for \$1,500, which was a big price to me, under the then existing circumstances, and more than any other trotting colt of that age had ever sold for in this country. The purchaser was Mr. John K. Alexander, of Illinois. As soon as I closed the sale of Mambrino Pilot with C. P. Relf, of Norristown, Pennsylvania, I immediately took the cars resolved to buy back at any cost Mambrino Patchen, and this I succeeded in doing, he being at the time two years old. When he was three years old I allowed him to serve a few mares. It was then war times, and the mares were scattered and some lost sight of, so that as regards number of colts, his first season did not appear to be much in his favor. Still, a few of the mares foaled in the vicinity, the balance being as stated, scattered during the war, etc. The price of service, during the first season, was twenty-five dollars to insure. I have kept him for service in the stud from then until the present time, raising the price in proportion to the extent to which his colts have shown speed and quality. He is, and has been, for three years, standing at two hundred dollars to insure.

At three years old I broke and gentled him to harness, and have aimed to drive him seven or eight times every fall since, merely to let him know that he was broke, etc. Last fall, 1875, after an interval of nearly three years, in which he was not harnessed, I hitched him up and drove him about seven times, the third time, still fat and untrained, my son held the first watch on him for one-fourth of a mile, which he jogged in forty seconds.

Mambrino Patchen is a black horse, full sixteen hands high, the only white shown by him being the grey hind leg—steel grey to the hock—a certificate granted by old Mambrino Chief to a large part of his descendants, more particularly his sons, and which is also worn by his grandsons, not a few—a badge of honor, and a certificate of member-



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MAMBRINO PATCHEN.



ship in a family of royal lines. Mambrino Patchen is a strong but very finely formed horse, in every part. He has a large head as any horse of his size should have, but not a coarse one. There is not a coarse or homely point about him. He has a proud carriage, a splendid form, fine crest, clean in the throat, a set of limbs and hocks equal to the best; mane and tail full and long, and the latter always carried at such an elevation as to attract attention as a family mark. No man ever saw a son or daughter of Mambrino Patchen that did not carry the tail at a handsome elevation. Rival owners (the best horse in the world always has his rivals) often insinuated that artificial means were employed to set the tails up for display. But the family have it, and what comes by nature leaves no room for art—and never a family carried a banner more handsomely.

The trotting quality of the family of Mambrino Chief seems to have culminated in this son and in his produce. His colts seem to be trotters from the day of their birth. I have seen young things at the side of their mothers that showed the highest degree of trotting quality ever seen in any ages.

The colt exhibitions at Forest Park mark an epoch in horse breeding in the United States which has given type and character to the business of raising trotters, not only in the Blue Grass region of Kentucky but throughout the Union.

The "Baby Trotters," as they have been termed, were a race and a rank worthy of a special cognomen. It may be taken as a fact beyond doubt or dispute, that in the early display of trotting excellence, even in the most infantile periods of colthood, the progeny of Mambrino Patchen surpassed any stallion we have yet seen. The Hurst filly, while a sucking foal by its mother's side, was led and trotted a half mile at the rate of 3:40. The full sister of Lady Stout showed nearly the same. It is claimed that they were only trotters in babyhood—that they did not hold out when they came to full age—that is, that while they were greatly distinguished in their very babyhood, they were not equally distinguished when full grown and in later years. That was in reality true, but it came from causes not heretofore explained and not from any peculiarities of the sire. Their earliness came from the sire, their retrograde when aged came from other sources, of which the sire had a part.

It was the fortune of Mambrino Patchen to be composed of elements which made him an effective or rather an impressive sire in the matter of trotting quality with thoroughbred and highly bred mares.



With such precocity in their offspring is a trait of character. His colts from such mares all came trotters at birth, and in colthood they excelled, but the more deeply-rooted blood qualities of Diomed and the racing thoroughbred eventually asserted their sway, and when the horse came to full age, and his form and capacity called for a higher degree of speed, his galloping instincts asserted their predominance, and he in great degree ceased to be a trotter.

Such, I have no doubt, was the real philosophy of this apparent phenomenon. Mambrino Patchen had large elements of Diomed blood—he had other elements of racing blood. He had, withal, powerful trotting instinct and he implanted it very clearly, but the galloping instinct of the racer, and particularly those coming through Diomed, finally came out ahead.

His trotters, whose trotting character seemed to be limited to babyhood, were those bred from mares of strong racing composition. It was not thus with those whose trotting quality was reinforced in the blood or habits of the dams. Take his colts from such mares as the dam of Mambrino Kate, Mambrino Boy, Lady Patchen and The Jewess, and they showed no inclination to stop on the confines of colthood. Lady Stout came from a highly bred mare that was not thoroughbred, yet she had so much of that blood that her case proves the principle I have here laid down. She may be a trotter which will continue to full age and improve and last like Kate and like Lady Thorn, but I think it doubtful, and she has several brothers and sisters, and they prove the correctness of what I say of such lines of blood. Stallions that are strong in racing blood, and particularly that of Diomed, will not make trotting sires.

The brothers of Lady Stout will not, but I should prize a brother of Mambrino Kate, and this illustrates Mambrino Patchen as a sire perfectly. His produce from these high bred mares are so blood-like and attractive, and so promising in early colthood, as to induce many to send him such mares and to purchase colts thus bred, and their disappointment leads them afterward to condemn the sire as a failure and a deception. Whereas the error was in just this, that he did what no other stallion in the world could have done, he showed great quality and early promise in his produce from a class of mares which possessed no sort of adaptation to the purposes of the trotting gait. His real greatness, however, as a sire, is not to be measured by the failure of the produce of such mares. He has shown his qualities in the produce of others and of all classes in such immense numbers,

and with such a display of superiority, as to stamp him one of the most remarkable stallions this country has ever seen. For highly bred produce, those that trot with smooth easy gait, and show early excellence, making time between 2:40 and three minutes, he surpasses any stallion this country has ever produced. He is without a rival or a peer in the limits indicated. He has not produced those with records as fast as some others, but the great number he has shown as possessing very high quality and within the range of speed indicated, surpasses any stallion we have yet seen.

But it must not be inferred from this, that Mambrino Patchen stops here, by any means. He will yet show a formidable list coming from mares in which the trotting forces were reinforced, and from such he will yet show a roll that will give him a name and place among the great trotting stallions of this country. Let me be clearly understood, when I say that in his own composition he has all the Diomed or racing elements that are admissible in a trotting family, and that he will add no lustre to his name in any case where these are reinforced, but that he has such elements of a great trotting stallion as will enable him to take a rank among the highest, whenever he can reach a class of mares in which the true trotting blood of Messenger is presented. He has already a splendid list. Although a very large number of his best bred colts are young, and only ready to enter appearance on the public courses, he has to his credit Mambrino Kate, dam by State of Maine, record of 2:24½, and six heats in 2:30 or better; The Jewess, 2:26, and nine heats in 2:30 or better; Mambrino Boy, dam by Strader's C. M. Clay Jr., 2:26½, and three heats; Lady Stout, dam by Mark Time, highly bred in racing blood, 2:29, when three years old; and George, 2:29¾.

One of the traits of kinship to Lady Thorn, shown by all the progeny of Mambrino Patchen, is their ability to hold out in a race. George won a seventh heat in 2:32; Glendale, a grandson, trotted a sixth heat in the mud in 2:32; Girl E. Queen, as a three year old, in fourth heat, trotted in 2:33¼.

I append a list cut from a sheet prepared by the owner of a son of this stallion, which I assume to be substantially correct, and which will show that Mambrino Patchen has a progeny which already testify to his merits as a sire; and will further give abundant proof that the great power of Mambrino Chief in imparting the trotting quality is also being transmitted by Mambrino Patchen to his own sons.

## MAMBRINO PATCHEN'S LIST.

	Record.		Record.
Mambrino Kate.....	2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$	Elmwood.....	2:33
The Jewess.....	2:26	Darby.....	2:40
Mambrino Boy.....	2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$	Lady Patchen, (3 year).....	2:36 $\frac{1}{4}$
Lady Stout, (3 year).....	2:29	Belle Patchen (2 year).....	2:41 $\frac{1}{2}$
George.....	2:29 $\frac{3}{4}$	Rothschilds, (3 year).....	2:41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Girl E. Queen, (3 year) in 4th heat.....	2:33 $\frac{1}{4}$	Kate Patchen, (3 year).....	2:45
		Paddy.....	2:49 $\frac{3}{4}$
	Trials.		Trials.
Paddy.....	2:28	Lady Stout.....	2:20
Elmwood....	2:28	Mambrino Bertie.....	2:19
Girl E. Queen.....	2:23	Tillie Thorn, (1 year).....	2:53

## GRAND COLTS OF MAMBRINO PATCHEN.

	Record.		Record.
Lida Bassett.....	2:25	Glendale.....	2:27 $\frac{1}{4}$

I should not close this sketch without adverting to the soundness of his stock, and their entire exemption from all trace of infirmity. While he has two crosses of Diomed blood, he has other lines of such healthfulness as to overcome all traces of infirm tendencies in that blood. He is a great stallion, and justly deserves the first place on the roll of Mambrino Chief, for his great display of combined excellences.

## MAMBRINO PILOT.

This distinguished son of Mambrino Chief was bred by Thomas Hook, of Scott county, Kentucky, and was foaled in 1859. He was sold the spring he was coming three years old, to Dr. L. Herr, for \$500. After training him lightly and using him for public service for two seasons, Dr. Herr sold him to H. H. Harrison, Lyons, Iowa, for \$10,000 cash. Afterward Dr. Herr repurchased him for \$12,000, payable in money and stock, and after receiving about one hundred mares at \$50 each (a high price then in Kentucky), and training him slightly, he sold him to C. P. Relf, of Norristown, Pennsylvania, for a large price. His popularity at this time is shown by the fact that during the same season, after he was purchased by Mr. Relf, he received fully one hundred mares, and during the same fall thereafter he trotted a mile at Philadelphia, under saddle, in 2:27 and a fraction.

Mambrino Pilot is a brown stallion, full sixteen hands high. The breeding of his dam furnishes another instructive lesson regarding the qualities of Mambrino Chief as a sire, and the class of mares

with which he would have yielded the richest results. This mare was a grey mare, Juliet, by Pilot Jr., her dam by Webster, a thoroughbred son of Medoc, and her grandam by Whip.

Pilot Jr., as will be shown more fully in Chapter XXV, was by Pilot the Pacer, from a mare with two thoroughbred crosses. Medoc was a son of American Eclipse—another Duroc-Messenger—and all Medoc mares have been good breeders of trotters. No blood in the dam of a trotter or trotting stallion has yet equaled the Duroc-Messenger when in proper relation. This should be accepted as the first maxim in the science of American breeding, and one of wide application and supported by overwhelming proofs.

Juliet produced her great son when she was four years old, as did also the dam of Volunteer. Her own breeding made her a superior mare. Her blood composition was one that would afford consanguinity for that of Mambrino Chief, and at the same time the elements of racing blood it contained were completely neutralized by the road and trotting elements of Pilot and the various part-bred roadsters through which she was descended. The success of Mambrino Pilot as a stallion affords further proof that both he and Mambrino Chief required a certain degree of consanguinity in the mares they received in order that their own qualities should properly be reproduced. His great son, MAMBRINO GIFT, of all others the nearest like himself, was from the noted mare Water Witch, by Pilot Jr., her dam by a son of St. Lawrence, and grandam a highly bred mare by Oliver, a son of Wagner.

Mambrino Gift was one of the great trotting stallions, and competed for the championship with Smuggler, Thomas Jefferson, Phil Sheridan, H. W. Genet, and other great stallions. He had a record of 2:20, and seventeen heats in 2:30 or better. He made in one race 2:21, 2:20, 2:23, which at that time were the three fastest heats ever made by a stallion.

Mambrino Gift died in 1877, a great loss to his owners and the breeding interest. As he was a stallion of great value as a breeder, and his produce may yet occupy conspicuous positions, I append hereto the following notice, published in the *Live-Stock Journal* soon after his death:

Mambrino Gift, the first stallion that ever trotted in 2:20, and who, for several years, divided the honors with Smuggler, for best stallion record, died Sept. 1st, of spasmodic colic. He was a beautiful horse, full 16 hands in height, rangy and stylish, with powerful quarters, but rather light in the girth and flank. In color he was of the darkest, richest chestnut, without a white

hair, as we remember him. He was bred by E. P. Kinkead, of Woodford county, Ky., got by Relf's Mambrino Pilot, out of a mare by Pilot Jr., 2d dam by Kinkead's St. Lawrence, 3d dam said to be a thoroughbred, but her pedigree has been lost. He was foaled in 1866, and commenced his trotting lessons when only two years old, under the tutelage of Dr. Herr. Messrs. Nye & Foster, of Flint, Mich., purchased him in 1873; and during that season he started in eight races—seven of which he won—and made a record of 2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$ . But it was in his next season that he so greatly distinguished himself. After having served twenty-five mares he was put in training; and in the Michigan Circuit, early in the campaign, he did battle with St. James, Huntress, and the then invincible Red Cloud, at Jackson and Saginaw. July 30th, he trotted at Cleveland, winning the third heat, but losing the race to Fred Hooper. On the following week he was engaged in the great stallion race, for a purse of \$10,000, in which he contended with Smuggler, Thomas Jefferson, Joe Brown, and Pilot Temple. This race was graphically described in the Journal of Sept., 1874, and remains to this day the most exciting stallion race ever trotted. The first two heats were won by Smuggler, in 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:20 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; the next by Mambrino Gift, in 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and the remaining three by Thos. Jefferson, in 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:28 $\frac{1}{2}$ . It was a race "for blood," and was fought between Thos. Jefferson and Gift to the very end of the last heat. On the week following, at Rochester, he trotted his greatest race, in which he beat Tanner Boy, Joe Brown, Joker, Fred Hooper and Barney Kelly, in three straight heats, in 2:21, 2:20, 2:23, the fastest time ever made by a stallion up to that date, and which has since been beaten by two stallions only, and one of them a son of the same sire. Later, in the same campaign, he contended for the championship in the stallion race at Mystic Park, but got no better than fifth place. It was claimed that he had been drugged prior to the race; but, however that may be, he was clearly "off," and could not trot on that day. The race was won by Smuggler, in 2:23, 2:23, 2:20, which placed him equal to Gift in the record; and this figure, 2:20, continued to be the best stallion record until, at Cleveland, in 1876, it was lowered by Smuggler to 2:16 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and five weeks later, at Hartford, to 2:15 $\frac{1}{4}$ , the present best stallion record.

The most successful trotter that has appeared on our trotting courses is the chesnut stallion, HANNIS. I have not the means of giving the pedigree of his dam. He is by Mambrino Pilot, and was kept in the dark until he was about nine years old. During his first season he made a record of 2:19 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and twenty-three heats in 2:30 or better. He is a small horse. Mambrino Pilot has also to his credit Morning, with record and four heats in 2:30.

His family are generally large and powerful horses, not very fine and rather slender about the waist—a mark that mars their otherwise great excellence.

He is the sire of CALBAN, a good stallion of excellent form and quality. His dam was by Strader's Cassius M. Clay, residue of the

pedigree thoroughbred, or mainly so. He is owned by Capt. M. M. Clay, of Paris, Bourbon county, Kentucky, and has to his credit Coaster, with record of 2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Caliban has shown good trotting quality himself.

Mambrino Pilot has another son, MAMBRINO MESSENGER, that has to his credit Lewinski, with record of 2:25 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and eighteen heats in 2:30. I am not able to give further particulars relating to this son.

ERICSSON, CLARK CHIEF AND McDONALD'S MAMBRINO.

Entitled to a front rank and in some respects the highest consideration among the sons of Mambrino Chief, should stand Ericsson the son, and Clark Chief the grandson of the mare Mrs. Caudle, whose pedigree can not be given, but whose blood qualities are clearly shown in the produce of these two great stallions. Whatever may have been her origin, she lacked only one element to make her the best mare ever sent to the old Chief, and one of the greatest this country has ever known.

The ascertained facts regarding her history are well known to a few persons, but they are so short of range as to leave us without any specific light regarding her blood qualities except as they are disclosed in her descendants.

The mare was well known to Mr. Ambrose Stevens and many of the older residents in and about New York. She was purchased in that city about the year 1840 and sent to Georgia. She was a well known and superior road mare, and was considered equal to 2:40 and better. After passing the hands of several parties at Savannah and Macon, Georgia, she was sent to Kentucky to be bred to a trotting stallion.

She was afterward the property of Mr. Enoch Lewis, well known in the vicinity of Lexington, and died there after raising several foals, one of which was called Little Nora, another was called Big Nora, both by Downing's Bay Messenger. Little Nora became the dam of Clark Chief, and Big Nora became the dam of McDonald's Mambrino. She also raised a son and a daughter by Mambrino Chief—Ericsson and the big mare called Nocomis, and afterward Psyche, foaled in 1861.

Ericsson, the son of Mrs. Caudle and Mambrino Chief, was foaled in 1856, and was a very large horse, the largest trotting sire ever seen in this country. He was an overgrown prodigy. His head, while it was not really one of homely form, was the longest and biggest head I

ever saw on a horse with any pretensions to breeding. He was always esteemed too large and gross in every particular, but for all that he was one of the most perfect natural trotters ever seen. In the later years of his life he was often exhibited at speed by the bridle alongside of another horse ridden in a gallop, and it was a sight worth beholding to see such trotting action, so perfect and true yet powerful in a horse which seemed only a little less than an elephant. He made his first appearance before the public when four years old, under the name of Morgan Chief, and trotted against the stallion Idol, by Mambrino Chief. Idol was from a thoroughbred mare by American Eclipse and a horse of superior quality and form, but Ericsson won in three straight heats, in 2:49, 2:41, 2:38 $\frac{3}{4}$ . He was a natural trotter, and his action was so perfect, so faultless as to create the belief, which had good foundation, that he was a trotting stallion possessed of the most valuable qualities, notwithstanding the fact that he was grown upon the scale of a draft horse rather than a roadster. It is stated that prior to this race he had made a private trial to wagon in 2:26. This race was in May, 1860.

In October of the same year he was matched against Kentucky Chief, owned by A. H. Brand, a near neighbor of Mr. Enoch Lewis, the owner of Ericsson, and trotted a race of four heats, Kentucky Chief taking the first in 2:39 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and Ericsson the ensuing three heats and the race in 2:34 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 2:30 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2:32. He was soon after bought by Hon. K. C. Barker, late of Detroit, and was used as a breeding stallion until his death, which occurred recently. He was a valuable breeder, and the influence of his blood will be seen in the trotters of this country for many years yet to come. He has to his credit Doble, a stallion, 2:28, and four heats in 2:30—one of the fastest two-year-olds that ever appeared in Kentucky; Belle, 2:28 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Eric, at four years old, 2:28 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; and Nightingale, 2:29 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

The produce of Ericsson all show a thigh proportionately shorter than the usual Mambrino measure, but a greater length from the hip to the hock than those of any other branch of the family. They are noted as trotting with a gait very nearly such as I have described among the Royal Georges—a very long reach of the hind foot, but not such wide spreading action behind.

Clark Chief was bred and owned by John Marders of Clark county, Kentucky, and was from Little Nora, by Downing's Bay Messenger; grandam Mrs. Candle, the dam of Ericsson. He was a bay stallion, not so dark as Ericsson, and not so large. His produce show the

effect of the additional Messenger strains, in a slight reduction of the rear leverage, but they yet retain a great similarity to the progeny of Ericsson. He died in the winter of 1871 and 1872, before his produce and merits as a sire were known, and before correct ideas of the real composition of the family and blood of Mambrino Chief prevailed to any great extent, hence his success in the stud was thereby limited. Had he lived until this time, it is my opinion that he would have stood as the first stallion of the family, and that in such cases as he could have secured mares by Almont, Administrator, Mambrino Patchen, and other sons of Mambrino Chief, and thus united with other Duroc strains, he would have exhibited a degree of excellence not possessed by any son of the great sire. Mrs. Caudle had no element of Duroc blood in her composition, and it constituted her only deficiency. A remote cross of that blood would have made her a breeding mare of marked superiority.

Clark Chief has to his credit for the short period that he survived, Woodford Chief, at five years old with a record of 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and ten heats in 2:30 or better; John E., 2:28 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Governor, 2:30; and Lady Prewett, 2:30. He is also the sire of the stallion Kentucky Prince, lately owned by Mr. A. B. Darling, and recently sold to Charles Backman of the Stony Ford Stud. His dam is by Morgan Eagle, a very good combination of blood, but would have been better if the order of breeding had been reversed—the Morgan blood in the sire, and that of Mambrino Chief in the dam. He will doubtless be a successful breeder. He is regarded as a horse of good form, and has shown good qualities of gait and speed. Woodford Chief is recently dead.

#### MCDONALD'S MAMBRINO.

This horse was from Big Nora, by Downing's Bay Messenger, grandam Mrs. Caudle. His dam being full sister to Little Nora, the dam of Clark Chief, he would of course resemble that horse very much; but full brothers are not exactly alike. How far these two differ it is impossible to determine. I have only met with two of his descendants. They each gave testimony to the peculiar anatomy inherited from Mrs. Caudle. One of these was a brown mare by McDonald's Mambrino. She had a thigh 24 inches, and was 41 inches in length from hip to hock.

Brownwood, a son of Blackwood, now owned at Beloit, Wisconsin, dam by McDonald's Mambrino, is 41 inches from hip to hock, while his sire, Blackwood, is only 39 inches.



In 1876 I saw in the possession of Col. R. Strader, at Lexington, a brown colt, three years old, by Eriesson, dam by Pilot Jr. His thigh was  $24\frac{1}{4}$ , and he was  $41\frac{1}{2}$  inches from hip to hock. A bay gelding at the same place, then four years old, by Eriesson, was 41 and 24.

Hattie Fitch, a grey mare, owned by Gen. Withers, by Williams' Mambrino, a son of Eriesson, was 24 inches in length of thigh, and 41 inches from hip to hock. This measure of 41 inches ran through the descendants of Mrs. Caudle with great uniformity.

This peculiarity marks all the descendants of Mrs. Caudle, and it constitutes a fact worthy of careful consideration. I find that the stock has been advancing in popular estimate in Kentucky for the past four years. I have no doubt that her impress will be seen for a long time in the future trotters bred from the Kentucky stock of the present day.

To recur again to the mare Mrs. Caudle. I am informed by one who knew her well that she had much of the form of the trotting mare Flora Belle, by Uwharie; had long and powerful quarters, but a head and other points that indicated the strongest concentration of the blood and qualities of Messenger. She was reported to have come from Dutchess county, New York. She had strong elements of Messenger in her composition, and if she came from Dutchess county, it is not improbable that she was a daughter of imported Bellfounder. His stay in Dutchess county would comport as to date with the probable period of her origin. Still further, she may have descended from some of those long and powerful quartered Canadians, crossed on the Messenger mares, that were numerous in the eastern part of the State of New York, from Long Island to the St. Lawrence river. The blood qualities above indicated were those which her descendants display, and which her own history renders probable. This length of 41 inches from hip to hock in her descendants, so much like the 41 of Hambletonian, and the trotters descended from Harry Clay mares, and so rarely found elsewhere, is strongly suggestive of Bellfounder.

With all my study of the horses of America I can not place this long measure of 41 inches as belonging outside of any family not descended from Bellfounder. If I am told that it may in Mrs. Caudle have been exceptional, just as it was with Lady Thorn, I admit the fact, but this other fact must also be noted that exceptional conformations or peculiarities are not transmitted except in slight degree, or by approximation, and with no sort of uniformity. In the case of the descendants of Mrs. Caudle, whether coming through Eriesson, or her

two daughters Big Nora and Little Nora, and the respective sons of each, Williams' Mambrino, McDonald's Mambrino and Clark Chief, the peculiarity holds with great uniformity. I have not seen Doble since he was two years old, and never inspected him in reference to the matter.

But as the female descendants of Bellfounder have culminated in value for breeding purposes, in the daughters of Sayer's Harry Clay, so likewise, in my opinion, the *creme de la creme* of all the female descendants of Mambrino Chief as dams of great trotters will be found in these female descendants of Mrs. Caudle, and I do not hesitate to give it as my opinion that she was a Bellfounder, strong in Messenger blood.

#### BAY CHIEF.

This son of Mambrino Chief was from a highly bred mare by Keokuk, grandam by Stamboul, an Arabian. He had a white face, and hence was often called Bald Chief. He was a very fast horse as a four-year-old, and trotted a half mile in 1:08. He was bred and owned by R. A. Alexander, and was killed by guerillas in the raid on Woodburn, narrated in Chapter XII. He was sire of Bald Chief, dam by Commodore, owned by George C. Stevens, of Milwaukee.

#### NORTH STAR MAMBRINO.

This stallion is a horse of superior form, a rich bay in color, strong and muscular, and has been one of the fastest sons of Mambrino Chief. He has a record of 2:26½, and ten heats in 2:30 or better. His dam was by Davy Crockett, the pacer. He is located in Dutchess county, New York, and is owned by George F. Stevens, Esq., the owner of the stallion Administrator.

#### MAMBRINO STAR.

This is a bay horse, foaled in 1862, dam Lady Fairfield, by old Redbuck, of Indiana, one of the great pacing stallions of the Copperbottom family. He is regarded very highly in the vicinity of Cincinnati. He is owned by Mr. Chas. Leggatt, of Hamilton county, Ohio. He has a record of 2:28½, and he is the sire of Cottage Girl, 2:29½.

Fiske's Mambrino Chief was foaled 1861. His dam was by Birmingham, son of Stockholder, son of Sir Archy; second dam by Bertrand, son of Sir Archy; third dam by Sumter, son of Sir Archy; and fourth dam by imported Buzzard. He has been owned in Michigan, and is regarded as a horse of excellent qualities.

A statement made by his owner shows that he has trotted one mile in 2:26 under saddle—not a record—and has a five-mile record of 13:52. He won two races in 2:30½ precisely. He has a saddle record of 2:29. He has to his credit, Mambrino General, 2:30, and a full brother called General Thomas—has trotted in 2:36. This stallion is, beyond doubt, an excellent trotting sire, and good results will often be seen tracing to his career.

#### BANNER CHIEF

Was a bay horse bred by Jas. B. Clay. His dam was by Downing's Bay Messenger, grandam by Hunt's Brown Highlander. He was owned and spent most of his life at Jacksonville, Illinois, and left some highly prized stock.

#### MAMBRINO TEMPLAR AND BRIGAND

Were brothers, and were large bay horses, showing the Sir Archy type in their composition in strong degree. They were bred by Dr. Samuel H. Chew, of Fayette county, Kentucky, and were from a mare called "Becky," also the dam of Whip Clay—she was by Wardlaw's Shakspeare; second dam by Curd's Kosciusko; third dam by Hephestion; fourth dam by Whip.

These stallions were grand and sweeping trotters, with very sloping shoulders, and from their breeding, doubtless much like Fiske's Mambrino Chief. Had they been kept at the right place and in the right way they would doubtless have been regarded as very superior stallions. During the troublesome days attending our civil war, when such property was in great hazard in Kentucky, Dr. Chew ran the two young stallions over into Indiana in the charge of A. M. Payne, a young man who overheated and injured them, causing one of them, and perhaps both, to be thick-winded, and otherwise unfavorably affecting them.

They were afterward traded for other stock. Mambrino Templar finally passed into the hands of M. L. Hare, of Indianapolis, and he remained there until his death, not long since.

Brigand was sold to the Messrs. Spears, of Tallula, Illinois, and finally passed through the hands of Emery Cobb, Esq., to Charles S. Dole, Esq., and is now owned in Wisconsin. It has been my fortune to own daughters of each of these stallions. They bred mostly chestnuts, with fine Sir Archy forms, sloping shoulders, and show a superior way of going. I can only express the opinion, that if properly managed in their earlier years, they would have proved superior stallions.

## ALCALDE.

This was a large bay stallion, dam by Pilot Jr. He has the credit of Hylas; dam also by Pilot Jr., 2:24½, and six heats in 2:30 or better; and Enigma, 2:26, and three heats in 2:30.

## JOE HOOKER,

Another son of Mambrino Chief, and one of many excellent crosses, was very much in appearance like the old Chief. He was about the same size, or perhaps hardly as large; the same in color, and had the grey hind leg in perfection. His first dam was by Canadian Chief; his second by Kavanaugh; his third by American Eclipse; and had the order of these been reversed, I should have selected him as the best bred son of Mambrino Chief. The starting point, Canada Chief, a son of Davy Crockett the pacer; next Kavanaugh, a race horse, I believe by Grey Eagle; and lastly, a mare by American Eclipse, from such a dam and grandam, would have furnished a mare equal in blood qualities to any that Mambrino Chief received; but I have observed that he did not breed a reproducer from any mare near or strong in the blood of a Canadian or pacer. This stallion, however, has one good one, Maud Macy, 2:27¼.

## MAMBRUNELLO.

This stallion was one of those selected on account of the supposed excellence of his blood, his dam being by Hunt's Commodore, grandam by Grey Eagle, etc., a thoroughbred mare. He was not one of the best of his reproducers, while a cross of Duroc blood in the foreground would have made him a success. He is credited with one performer with a good record, Tom Britton, 2:26, and seven heats in 2:30 or better.

Mambrino Chief also produced Kentucky Chief and Brignoli, lately called Mambrino Prince, 2:29¾, and two sons that contend for the name and honors of Ashland Chief. Another called Mambrino Chief Jr., the sire of Proctor, with record of 2:23.

Mambrino Chief left several sons from thoroughbred mares, which deserve notice. As might be expected, those showing in themselves the highest degree of trotting excellence were from mares by American Eclipse—a Duroc-Messenger. I have already in Chapter X, given an account of Alhambra, and the other of like breeding is

## IDOL.

This stallion was bred by R. P. Todhunter, of Fayette county, Ky., foaled in 1855; his dam by American Eclipse; second dam Kitty Muse, by Shakspeare; third dam Eliza Jenkins, by Sir William, etc., etc.—all thoroughbred mares.

This was one of the stoutest and soundest of the sons of the Chief from thoroughbred mares, and his trotting quality was of the highest order. He has left much excellent stock, and was in Kentucky a very valuable and highly esteemed stallion. During the war he was owned by Capt. Ryland Todhunter, and followed the fortunes of the Confederate army, and was used as a pack horse and in various other ways. In 1871 he was sold to Dr. Cheatham, of Nashville, Tennessee, and soon afterward to Wm. H. Peck, Esq., of Hartford, Conn., and is now owned by that gentleman. I know of no more valuable son of Mambrino Chief coming from a thoroughbred mare.

## BOURBON CHIEF.

This was a bay stallion, not quite so large as the average sons of Mambrino Chief, but one that showed excellent quality. He was regarded as a fast horse, and has to his credit that excellent trotter Calmar, with record of 2:23½, and twenty-three heats in 2:30 or better. His dam was the race mare Puss, by Grey Eagle, and she was a thoroughbred.

## ASHLAND.

This was a bay stallion, not large, but exhibiting a good degree of quality. He was bred by James B. Clay, and as a two-year-old was sent as a present to Edwin Thorne, and after being struck by lightning and barely escaping alive, was sold to George C. Hitchcock, of New Preston, Conn. His dam was the noted mare Utilia, by Margrave, also the dam of the race horse Ulverston, by Lexington. Ashland has produced some winners, and particularly one daughter from the old mare Highland Maid, won a stake at an early age. He has one son, Joe Pettit, with record of 2:30. He has also a son, Highland Chief, that was at three years of age a handsome stallion.

## MAMBRINO ECLIPSE.

This horse was foaled 1862; his dam was by Zenith, a thoroughbred son of Eclipse, and was a thoroughbred. He has been owned mainly by C. B. Carpenter, of Tolono, Illinois, but I know of nothing produced by him that would indicate that he was a success.

## WOODFORD MAMBRINO.

I close this sketch of the sons of Mambrino Chief with this highly distinguished and somewhat remarkable stallion.

His dam is Woodbine, a highly but part-bred mare by Woodford, a son of Kosciusko, son of Sir Archy. Woodford ran back to Diomed, by one line independent of Sir Archy, it not being certain to my mind, as I have already stated, that Sir Archy was by Diomed. He has been and is at this time, a very great trotter, next to Lady Thorn of all the sons and daughters of Mambrino Chief. He was a fast horse when three years old, and trotted a mile in  $2:36\frac{1}{4}$ . In 1874 he was tried three heats and timed as follows,  $2:27\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $2:29\frac{1}{2}$  and  $2:24\frac{1}{4}$ . I believe he has since trotted in  $2:20\frac{1}{4}$ . He is beyond doubt the fastest son of Mambrino Chief.

He is a dark brown horse, clean and blood-like, with a low and compact form and great muscular conformation. His quarters and stifles are wide and very muscular. He has a thigh full 24 inches in length, but is only 38 inches in length from centre of hip to the outer edge of the hock. He is the Star stallion of the Mambrino Chief family. In his individual excellence, with one exception, he is the finest and most powerful son of the great sire. He was an early trotter, and he maintains that trotting capacity at times in the very highest state of development. He is now on the turf, never having previous to the present season entered upon it, and his racing capacity ranks him among the first performers of the day. He will close the present season with a good public record and a good many heats in  $2:30$  or better. From the time he was three years old until the present, with the exception of certain times when he was suffering from infirmity, he might have been on the turf and all the time trotting under or near  $2:30$ . There are two noteworthy facts to be observed with regard to this very fast and very capable trotting stallion.

He has never been a sound horse. He has been affected with an infirmity in the form of fistula, which has appeared more than once, and has thrown him out of condition and health.

Moreover, his Diomed blood has asserted that other quality attendant upon great performance, the lack of ability to reproduce it. For while it is true that he has to his credit Magenta, with a record of  $2:24\frac{1}{2}$ , and nine heats in  $2:30$ , and Geo. A. Ayer,  $2:30$ , he has been and is a failure as a stallion. No son of Mambrino Chief has stood more highly, or had better opportunities. He was bred by R. A.

Alexander, at Woodburn, and foaled 1862, the same year as Mambrino Patchen. He has had the choicest mares of Kentucky, but never until within a very short period had any colts that participated in the local stakes in Kentucky. Had he been a reproducer equal to his own merits and ability as a trotter, no stallion of his family would now show a list equal to his record. But it has been with him as with Brignoli and Kentucky Chief, and the young stallions from Mambrino Patchen and Sir Archy mares—the Diomed blood is not trotting blood, and when allowed full or controlling sway, the stallion which carries it will not bred trotters.

Duroc blood is trotting blood in union with that of Messenger, but Diomed blood is antagonistic to the ways and impulses of a trotter.

Mambrino Chief gave testimony to his own blood composition. He reveled in his own—which was Duroc-Messenger—and the field of matchless fertility to him was one of precise consanguinity. Woodford Mambrino is the Star stallion of the Mambrino Chief family, but the great producers of that family are Mambrino Patchen, Eriesson, Clark Chief; and the failure of Idol and Alhambra was not on account of a lack of the proper blood elements for trotting quality, but because their dams were strictly thoroughbred mares.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### BLACKWOOD AND SWIGERT.

THE carefully selected tickets of the lottery do not always draw the prize, and it sometimes is awarded to the number chosen by no one, and rejected by all. So it happens in the lottery of horse breeding—the prize does not come from the institution that has no capital to back it up ; but, when the bank is solvent, the holders of tickets are many, and the rich prizes are few—many will draw blanks. Such is the history of all enterprises, and such, in a great degree, is that of breeding great animals.

In 1865, the proprietor of “Woodburn Farm,” in Kentucky, had some undesirable stock, which he wanted to sell. Some were halt, and some were blind. As was then, and is now, the custom, he took the lot to Lexington, on one of their so-called county court days, and offered them at auction. He succeeded in selling part, but one blind mare, by Mambrino Chief, failed to draw a single bid. He offered her for \$100, but no takers. Finally, he induced his auctioneer to give him that sum for her, and she went at that figure. During the following winter, the auctioneer found her heavy on his hands. He wanted to move elsewhere, and one of his difficulties was the disposal of the blind mare. He finally succeeded in getting her off, on Mr. Andrew Steel, for \$125.

During all this time she was in foal, and in the spring produced a nice black colt, that showed in his colthood a strong inclination for tall trotting. In time he became somewhat promising, and Mr. Steel gave Mr. G. H. Buford one-half interest in the prospective trotter, for training and developing him. The sequel is soon told. Blackwood—such was he named, as a three-year-old, trotted, on the second of October, 1869, at Lexington, Ky., in public, for a silver pitcher, a mile in 2:31—the then fastest record for a colt of that age. Mr. Steel paid Mr. Buford \$12,500 for his half-interest, and soon afterward sold Blackwood to Harrison Durkee, Esq., of New York, for \$30,000,



as has been generally stated. The dam of Blackwood was by Mambrino Chief, and his grandam was a dun mare that came from Ohio, and was called a three-minute trotter. His sire was Alexander's Norman, a horse then hardly known to fame.

During the same season of 1865, Mr. Alexander bred another mare to Norman, that was similar in blood to the dam of Blackwood. This mare was Blandina, she being by Mambrino Chief, and her dam being the Burch Mare by Brown Pilot, and he by Copperbottom. The Burch Mare is distinguished as the dam of Rosalind, a mare that has attained a record of 2:21 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

This mare, Blandina, is regarded as one of the best mares produced by Mambrino Chief. Her foal of 1866 was a nice black colt, and was named Swigert, after the then superintendent of "Woodburn Farm." At the age of one year he was sold to Richard Richards, of Racine county, Wis.

These two sons of Norman, and grandsons of Mambrino Chief, I have seen separately, at an interval of nearly six months, and, after allowing for the difference in condition, and the season of the year, I may say that it is a rare thing for two stallions, bred in the same year, and by the same breeder, to bear so close a resemblance to each other. They are both black—although Swigert is entered in the *Trotting Register* as a brown—the only place he shows anything that could be called brown being the side of the head and muzzle and flanks, where the color is not so clear as elsewhere. Swigert is slightly larger in some respects than Blackwood. He is 63 inches and a fraction in height, while Blackwood is 62 inches. Their length of body, as reported to me—not measured by myself—is 68 inches for one, and 68 $\frac{1}{2}$  for the other, and the girth is 72 inches for Blackwood and 74 for Swigert; and these measurements are probably correct, and show how closely the two horses resemble each other in size—but in appearance they are very similar indeed. Blackwood shows a small star, a left hind foot white, and a little on the other, but Swigert has no white marks. Their limb measurement, taken by myself, is almost identical in each case—front cannon-bone, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches each, and forearm, 20 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches for Blackwood, and 20 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches for Swigert; and, in the hindquarter, 39 inches from hip to hock, and a thigh 24 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches for each.

I have already, in Chapter XXII, shown the origin of this 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch thigh to have been in the family of Mambrino Chief, inherited from Duroc; but if any one has any doubt about the inheritable and certain transmission of this anatomical feature, I will call his attention

to Kate Crockett, the dam of Lula, by this same Norman. Kate Crockett and her daughter each have a thigh  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches; but her son Goodwood, by Blackwood, has a thigh 25 inches long, and is only 15 hands 2 inches high. The dam of Rosalind has a thigh  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches, while her son by Dictator, two years and nine months old, has one  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches long. Black Prince, by Dictator, from Madam Loomer, 15 hands 3 inches high, has a thigh 24 inches; while Duke of Brunswick, by Hambletonian, from same dam, has a thigh only 23 inches; Dictator's dam being a Star mare, and having also the Duroc cross. A small mare, not over 15 hands 1 inch, by Swigert, dam by Eureka, runs in the measure of  $38\frac{1}{2}$ —24 inches; and of the half-dozen of the full-grown produce of Swigert inspected by me, not one showed a thigh less than 24 inches, and in most cases a fraction over. One mare, whose dam was by a son of Hungerford's Blucher, he by Blucher, and he by Duroc, showed full  $24\frac{3}{4}$  inches. It will be borne in mind that Lady Patriot, a small mare, not over 15 hands 2 inches, had a thigh 24 inches, and her sire was a reputed grandson of Blucher. The inspection of several animals descended from this Hungerford's Blucher leaves no doubt on my mind that the peculiar conformation of Lady Patriot and the Volunteer family is derived from this horse Blucher. I hope the multiplication of facts on this point will make it clear, and I return from the digression.

Each of these stallions has very noticeable withers, and shoulder very flat on the top, not very high, but very wide, and covered by a compact and closely-woven mass of cartilage, very much like that of Hambletonian. It is so compact in each that it is hard to discover the upper edge of the shoulder-blade, so closely is it joined to the withers, and so broad and closely woven is the covering. I have recently been told, by one who knew him well, that American Eclipse had much such a shoulder. It is certainly one of great symmetry and strength. The head of each of these horses is plain and bony, but not coarse, and shows the large and prominent brain development of the Messenger family, but not as full and clear as in some of the Abdallahs. The eye is full, but quiet, and not so prominent and expressive as in Hambletonian. The outline and general contour of the body is round, even and compact; good back, not of great length, well ribbed and symmetrical. The croup runs out tolerably straight, but not so much so as in Hambletonian. The tail sits on rather high, and the rump is not in any respect a drooping one, with quarters of moderate fullness, but of the clean, muscular sort, and of even and

uniform proportions. Hips not prominent; a long and rather slender gaskin; the thigh not being heavily muscled, but seeming rather deficient in this respect, and the heavy part of the quarter not coming down very well. The hind legs of these horses are rather straight, more so than the average sons of mares by Mambrino Chief; the hocks are large and well formed, and show no tendency toward curbs, or any leaning toward the Mambrino Chief pattern in form. The measurement from hip to hock, it will be noticed, is the old Messenger formula of 39 inches; and a thigh  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches gives these two a great similarity to Thorndale and Almont, except in the muscular appearance of the quarters and thighs of the two latter. They are not so wide at the stifle, nor so large in the thigh or gaskin, as Almont and Thorndale. They each have handsome tails, well set on, and a long, well-formed neck—in all of which they each resemble the other very much. The entire outward form and appearance of the two horses is strikingly alike, and they may be set down as the Castor and Pollux of the trotting stud. Their gaits or manner of going follow from their similarity of blood and conformation, and are precisely alike, although I have never seen either of them in motion. In each case I was able to describe the gait to the satisfaction of the owner or keeper.

A horse or a family that has a  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inch thigh, and only measures 39 inches from hip to hock, will trot very wide apart behind—wider than is necessary—and will lift the hind feet and hocks too high. This action will be controlled somewhat by the structure and extension of the muscles of the hindquarter; and, for this reason, those of the same measurement will differ in the degree of their faulty action. Thorndale lifts his hind feet too high, and he strikes the cross-bar of the skeleton wagon with his feet, unless specially constructed for him. Blackwood and Swigert, with their long and more slender gaskins, raise their hocks entirely too high, and both strike the cross-bar with their hocks, unless the sulky be specially built for them.

The stifle action of these two families is precisely alike, and rather similar to the Almonts. Indeed, it could hardly be otherwise with the similarity of conformation. This peculiarity of anatomy, which was ingrafted on the American trotter by Duroc, and which has a tendency to an increasing development with each successive generation, like the trotting peculiarity of the Messenger blood, has made its mark on the trotting gait of a very large and rapidly increasing branch of our roadster family. In some instances, as we have seen, notably in that

of the Ericsson family, it has been compelled to yield either to the superior and controlling agency of the Messenger conformation, by the prepotency of that blood, or, as is clearly the case of Lady Thorn, from causes that can not be explained or accounted for; thus forming, as in her case, an exceptional instance. But, in nearly all other instances, the tendency of this cross has been toward the development of a long thigh, and a great width at the stifle, which brings a corresponding width of gait, and an elevation of the hock totally unlike the old-time trotters of Messenger blood, or those of the present day where that blood has free scope, and is uncontrolled by this most remarkable element.

I have stated that the Blackwoods, Swigerts and Almonts lift their hocks too high, and, further, that a horse that has a thigh  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, and measures but 39 inches from hip to hock, will trot thus. Let us look at this point, and see if this gait is the result of such conformation.

By reference to the lines *I* and *J*, in the cut of Hambletonian, it will be seen that in the case of a long thigh (*J*), and of a short measure from hip to hock, when the foot is lifted and moved forward, inasmuch as the thigh is a single member that can not bend, the stifle must be raised so high as to clear the flank altogether, and, also, either strike the body of the horse, or it must spread out and lap over the sides; the stifle is forced to move forward in a horizontal position, and the hock is elevated to a great height at each step; whereas, if the thigh be a short one, the line *I* swings forward, like the rod of a pendulum, and the hock passes under the line of the stifle, which rises at a fair elevation (the thigh meanwhile assuming almost a perpendicular position), and the hock advances, and the hind foot is extended far forward and in direct line under the body. Such a motion is practically impossible with a horse that has a thigh  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and only 39 inches from hip to hock, unless aided by an exceptional muscular organization. Administrator is the only stallion well known to the public that has a  $24\frac{1}{2}$  inch thigh that can move in this way. He does not elevate his hocks, but moves his feet in right line under his body. But he is entirely exceptional, and is only enabled to do it by reason of the great size of the triangle of the hindquarter (marked by the lines *H G F*), in this respect being the same as Hambletonian; otherwise it is impossible that he should swing the line *I* along so far as to pass the line *J*, without spreading his stifles wide apart, and elevating his hocks. While I say he advances

his hind feet under his body, I must add, that the shortness of his measure prevents their advance as far as I like—but there is no sprawl. The muscular build of the Almonts causes them to lift less than some others, yet they lift too high, and in the case of Blackwood and Swigert, the fault is a decided one.

The question has been asked, Is there any true proportion or measure for a perfect trotter? I answer, there is; and there are some stallions that come very near to the true proportion. The Abdallah and Messenger standard of 39—23 is about as near the proportion as can be selected. A stallion that has a thigh 24 inches, should not be less than 40 to 41 inches from hip to hock. This was Hambletonian's and Volunteer's proportion. Florida is 24—39½, and Governor Sprague is 23¾—39¼, and those stallions move as near right as any that can be selected. Smuggler is 24—40, and no finer action behind was ever witnessed than he displays. Lady Thorn, with her 23 inch thigh, and 42 inches from hip to hock, had a gait that was the marvel of all who beheld it. The Harry Clay family all have a conformation approaching this measure. Such a measure will trot very close—hocks very low, never lifted in the rear, the feet far under the body.

These horses that have the excessive length of thigh, show a great deal of trotting action when young—and at slow paces it is very attractive—but when one of these showy fellows is compelled to go in fast time, the great difficulty of handling his long levers begins to tell upon the crowded space in which he must perform his evolutions, and the muscle with which he accomplishes them. When his stifle is thumping against his sides, and he is compelled to double up his long members, after the fashion of the toy called a *jumping jack*, in the quickest sort of time, he is apt to make some false motions, and the result is, a gait that is called broken or wabbling, half-gallop, half-trot; or, gallop with one foot, and trot with the other.

These so-called broken-gaited horses all trot very nicely until crowded for fast motion, then their machinery does not fold together readily, and they make false motions, and go unsteadily. On the other hand, a horse that is 24—40, or 23—39, or 23¾—39½, and, at the same time muscled as Albemarle, Sprague or Grant, can trot fast without hitching or hobbling, and none of these horses lift their hocks high, or go with a sprawling gait. They trot level and true, and set their feet well under the body, only opening behind wide enough to pass clearly and readily.

Allie West, the fastest of the Almonts, had a grandam by Downing's

Bay Messenger, and was a large horse, 15 hands  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. This extra Messenger cross counteracted his double Duroc, and gave him a measure of  $23\frac{1}{2}$ — $39\frac{1}{2}$ , and he made his fast time of 2:21 without hobbling or hitching—and a grand trotter he was. The colt Goodwood, by Blackwood, from Kate Crockett, the dam of Lula, is  $41\frac{1}{2}$  from hip to hock, and 25 inches in the thigh. While he will lift his hocks very high, he will also have a length of sweep for the hind feet greater than the average of his family. With such a conformation he should show a very attractive gait.

The Messenger horse of the early day trotted with his hind feet set well under him, and in many cases reaching far to the front, precisely after the manner of Lady Thorn and Mrs. Caudle, the dam of Ericsson. There was no sprawl, nor wide spreading of the stifles, hocks or hind feet. The latter spread far enough to pass clearly, and no more, and were set forward well toward the front, and in direct line under the body. The Abdallahs and Champions yet show that gait, much after the similitude of the early type. Sally Miller—the dam of Long Island Blackhawk, Topgallant, Whalebone, Paul Pry, all of them great trotters, and of the early Messengers, trotted after the close fashion. I have recently conversed with a gentleman who knew these old and early trotters very well, and can yet give clear ideas of the way in which they differed from the wide and loose-going fellows so common in our day. There was nothing loose about the Messenger horse. He was the most compact, closely-built and powerful horse, for his inches, perhaps, ever seen. He had no surplus, either of leverage or muscle, and his way of going was just what such an organism would secure.

The two stallions now under consideration approach in many respects very closely to the Messenger model, but differ from it in two very essential and important particulars. The one, I have already mentioned, was a modification derived from the Duroc blood; the other is found in the conformation of the foreleg—a cannon-bone a little too long, and a forearm as much too short. A front cannon  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and a forearm  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches, is not a good proportion, and was not the model of the Messenger family. The result of this conformation is seen in the action of the forelegs of this family. They have plenty of what some call knee-action. I have compared their rear action to that of Thorndale and Almont. The latter reaches his front feet out well—far out—but not very high. Thorndale reaches out well, and raises his feet quite as high as he ought. His action in

front is really splendid. The Blackwoods and Swigerts bend their knees, raise them high, but do not throw the feet out so well in front; and when they bring them down, they do it with a short, chopping stroke, that causes the foot to strike the ground sharply. In fact, they seem almost to strike backward, and often strike the quarters. This defect—for such it is—exists in this family in some degree, but not so greatly as in many others, and particularly far less than in the noted trotting stallion which forms the subject of Chapter XX. In their case, proper shoeing will, in great part, remedy the defect, and practice will overcome it so far that it shall not seriously operate against them as a family of trotters. I do not regard it as a blemish or serious fault, but it is even more objectionable than the faulty action of the hindquarters, as in that case the fault is simply one of excessive action, which, in a sire is not very objectionable, as he will be expected to secure a strong and decided trotting gait in the produce of mares that lack in trotting action. But more trotting horses fail in their forelegs than in their hind ones, and the reason is, they strike the ground so hard with their feet, that the concussion is a greater strain than that involved in the propelling action of the hind legs. Moreover, a horse thus defectively constructed can not get his front feet out at all times readily enough to steady him in a rapid gait; he loses his foot, and breaks, and such an one can not be a good or ready breaker. When forced to gallop, he can not skip along and catch again, but gallops so high that he can only catch again in the trotting gait when his rate of speed is much reduced. The trotter that is evenly made up in front, with proper length of cannon and forearm, rarely breaks; and when he does, he catches again readily, and loses nothing, or little, either way. As a family of trotters, I would prefer them with less of what we call vigorous trotting action—they would make more speed with less show and effort.

The one feature of this family that stands out prominently, is their ready and high trotting quality. They seem to take to it readily and very young, the latter quality having been inherited through their Mambrino Chief dams. These two stallions also seem to have the faculty of engrafting a trotting gait on the produce of thoroughbred mares, much like that of Almont; but I have not seen enough of their produce from such mares to enable me to say that they have the faculty in equal degree. Aside from the exceptions of gait, above mentioned, these two stallions seem to embody many of the traits, characteristics and qualities of old Messenger, as I gather them from

the traditional accounts of him and his stock, and from such of the descendants of that horse in our day as I am able to find.

With the above exceptions, I may say that I know of no family that shows so much of the genuine character and form of old Messenger as these two stallions, so much alike in every respect. The brain and forehead development shows the Messenger plainly, but not quite so clearly as some families known to me. The clean, flat legs, the sound joints, and freedom from curbs, spavins, splints or ringbones, or other defects, all attest the perfection of health that prevails in the family. There seems to be no lack of muscle, no weakness nor marked deficiency in any particular; and the general contour of the horse, in each case, impresses me, on a close inspection, with the presence of one quality, that I find so much lacking in many, and present only in a few, that of *great positiveness* in every point of type and character. In this respect, I think, I was particularly struck by Blackwood, and I can not say that Swigert, in any respect, falls below him. Condition has much to do with the estimate an inspection creates in the mind, and in this respect, when I saw Blackwood, he was in far better state than Swigert, whom I saw after an accident from which he was slightly disabled. His success in the stud, when locality and the class of mares he has received are considered, has not fallen below that of Blackwood. He has been kept in the stud closely, and had a service of nearly one hundred mares yearly, and was never in the hands of a trainer until 1876, when, at the age of ten years, and after the close of a season in which he had the above number of mares, he attained a rate of speed below 2:30, that exceeded the expectations of his owner and patrons.

It remains for us to consider the blood forces that have united in the composition of these two stallions, so much alike, and of so great excellence. Their respective dams being each by Mambrino Chief, my delineation of that family, in Chapters XXII and XXIII, presents my readers with a clear statement of their composition, derived from that source. The 2d dam of Blackwood is stated to have been a dun mare of unknown blood that came from Ohio, and was a fast trotter.

The 2d dam of Swigert is a mare that has herself produced the fast and noted mare Rosalind. She is by a son of Copperbottom, a fast-paced stock, well known in the State of Kentucky, and always regarded as possessed of good blood. So far as the known qualities of the two grandams extend, it must be conceded that the advantage is in favor of Swigert, and his own dam has been the maternal ances-



tor of several other good ones, among them the stallion Abdallah Pilot, by Alexander's Abdallah.

Norman, the sire of these two stallions, was foaled about 1845, at or near Lansingburg, in the State of New York. He was by the Morse Horse, so called, and his dam is stated, by the *Trotting Register*, to have been by Jersey Highlander, and his 2d dam by Bishop's Hambletonian.

A gentleman now living in Chicago and well known to me, says that he knew Jersey Highlander in Saratoga county, New York, very well; he (Mr. E.) was then sixteen years old; that the horse was then about twenty years old; that he was called a Hambletonian; that he was a bay; and Mr. E. gives the name of Wm. Benton, who then had him and mentions the names of one or more persons who sent mares to him.

The above is the reputed pedigree of Norman; and before entering into that of the Morse Horse, I may say that he produced two sons by the name of Norman, Alexander's, a brown, and Bathgate's, a grey—and this latter was a trotter and the sire of trotters, among others the horse called General Taylor, that was taken to California and there trotted thirty miles in 1 hour and 47 minutes and 59 seconds, and on another occasion trotted ten miles to wagon in 29 minutes and 41½ seconds. Norman, the sire of Blackwood and Swigert, was also the sire of the famous mare Lula, that, in 1875, attained a record of 2:15—second only to the renowned Goldsmith Maid—and May Queen, formerly Nashville Girl, that now stands with a record of 2:20. These remarkably fast trotters, so closely related to the sire of our two stallions under consideration, show that there is a powerful concentration of trotting blood of the first class near at hand.

The sire of Norman, as before stated, was the so-called Morse Horse, also sometimes called Norman. This Morse Horse was entered in the *Trotting Register* as reputed to have been by a Norman horse from France and dam by Ogden's Messenger, but this pedigree encounters the same fate, at the hands of the *Monthly* above referred to, that seems to have been shared by so many others. The pedigree of this Morse Horse has been fully explored by Mr. Richards, the owner of Swigert, and the facts obtained by him have, in part, been presented to the public already through the above named channel. I can not present these facts in more concise form than to give the substance of the several statements made to Mr. Richards in regard to the pedigree under consideration.

Mr. John Carswell, of Racine, Wisconsin, says:

I lived in Salem, Washington county, New York, from my birth, in 1809, until 1836. My father's nearest neighbor was James McNitt, the owner of a farm and a distillery, who fattened hogs and marketed them at Montreal and Quebec. He was, also, something of a dealer in horses. On his return from a trip to that region, about 1829 or 1830, he brought back a stallion called European, that was the sire of the Morse Horse. He represented the horse as having been imported into Canada from France. He was an old horse, and showed signs of ill usage, being badly knee-sprung, but was, nevertheless, one of the best trotters at that time. He was a beautiful model—long body, good length of limb, and lofty carriage; his color was very light grey, or nearly white. Mr. McNitt was also the owner of the dam of the Morse Horse, and he was foaled about 1832. I was not aware that he knew anything of the mare's pedigree. She was a beautiful animal, and weighed about 1,100 lbs.; a compactly built, bright bay mare; black mane and tail—very handsome. I remember seeing the colt—a very ordinary looking one—the next morning after he was foaled. I last saw him in 1837; he was then called five years old, and owned by James Mills, now of Illinois; he was a fine-looking colt, very dark iron-grey color. Mr. McNitt sold him to Martin Stover, for \$80, and he sold him to Mr. Mills.

Mr. B. A. Jenkins, of La Crosse, Wisconsin, states as follows:

Mr. James McNitt brought from Canada to Washington county, New York, two stallions, one a large, dappled grey horse, apparently of some good blood; he was all used up as to legs, having but one sound one—he could hardly walk—knees worked out of all shape. As to general figure, he was a beauty; long and sound, smooth hips, short back, strong loins, neck well set on shoulders, with a beautiful head. The same man owned a mare that showed blood, and was called the Beck Mare; from this mare and the above horse a colt was raised; when young was nearly black, but became a splendid iron-grey. This colt, that was afterward called the Morse Horse, was bought by Martin Stover. He raised him, and sold him, I think, when three years old, to James Mills. I heard, since I came West, of Mills exhibiting this horse and six of his colts, and driving all of them, with the sire in the lead, at the New York State Fair at Saratoga. The other horse, bought by McNitt at the same time, was a Canadian pony, having all the characteristics of the Kanuck; was a fast trotter; went with a pawing gait, lifting his forefeet very high; was long-bodied, heavy mane and shaggy appearance. He was as good a horse of his kind as I ever saw.

Martin McNitt, the son of James McNitt, and now of Brown county, Illinois, says:

The Morse Horse was sired by an imported horse, imported from France to Montreal, about 1816. My father, James McNitt, of Salem, Washington county, New York, bought him about 1826 or 1827. He was 16 hands high, dappled grey, silver mane and tail, high headed, nice limbs, beautiful flat

legs, and as fine appearing a horse as I ever saw. My father had, at the same time, two other stallions; they were Canadian French. One of them could trot a mile in less than three minutes—the imported horse could out-trot him. The Morse Horse was by the imported horse, and out of a mare called Beek; she was 16 hands high, bright bay. My father sold the Morse Horse to Martin Stover, and he sold him to Mr. Mills, and Mr. Mills sold him to Mr. Morse. He was about 16 hands high, but had never been trained when he sold him. I can not give the pedigree of the horse nor the mare.

Mr. James Mills, of Peoria county, Illinois, states as follows:

James McNitt bought the sire of the Morse Horse at La Prairie, Canada. He was an imported horse, and was dark grey. Mr. McNitt raised the Morse Horse until he was three years old; he sold him to Martin Stover; I bought him from Mr. Stover in his fourth year—that was thirty-nine years ago (1836) last December. He was dark grey. I sold him to David Telft and Zack Adams, and they sold him to Phil. Allen and Calvin Morse. His grandam was sired by a Messenger, from Saratoga, called Peacock. Mr. Emerson owned the horse. His grandam was a dark chestnut, without any marks; his dam was Hambletonian, dark bay, without marks, weight 1,100 lbs.; his dam's name Becca, grandam's Mozza. Both of these mares were bred by my father, Joseph T. Mills. He sold Becca to Robert Stewart, and he sold her to James McNitt.

In a second letter, Mr. Mills further states:

As near as I can recollect, Mr. McNitt brought the sire of the Morse Horse from Canada in 1831; but Mr. Carswell may be right. Mr. Morse told me the summer he bought him he weighed over 1,200 lbs. He had a very nice shaped foot. I never knew him to interfere or strike his feet against each other in traveling. He had a very flat bone and wide leg; had a fine body, well ribbed, and his tail came from his body straight and nice; his neck was rather heavy for beauty; his nostril was large enough to put your fist into it, and his wind was like a blacksmith's bellows. I never heard of any of his colts being spavined or curbed. Mr. Telft was mistaken about Becca being by Bishop's Hambletonian; her sire was Hambletonian that belonged to Jack Williams, of Middletown, Vermont.

Mr. Alonzo Hyde, of Middletown, Rutland county, Vermont, settles the question as to the sire of Becca, the dam of the Morse Horse. He says:

I was acquainted with Mr. Williams almost from his birth till he died. His name was John Williams—Jack was a nickname that he was known by from Canada to Baltimore, Maryland. He never owned the horse spoken of, but had the care of him the last season that he was kept here, and was returned to his owners, Eddy & Remington; after that time he was owned by Mr. Harris, and took the name of Harris' Hambletonian, and died in his hands. I will give you the pedigree of this stallion. The old Bishop's Hambletonian I knew well; have been to Bishop's stable and have seen him there

and at other places. His color was mahogany bay, rather dark. This Harris' Hambletonian was by Bishop's Hambletonian; the dam was a grey mare brought from New Haven, Connecticut. I knew her well. The Judson Horse I knew well also; he was by Bishop's Hambletonian. There was one other by Bishop's Hambletonian, called Comet, and there was one other, the second generation of Hambletonians from the Bishop; one got by Harris' horse, called the Noble Horse; one other, called the Parris Horse (both of these were good stock getters), and one other stallion by the Judson Hambletonian, called the Andreas Horse. You can depend on what I tell you of this Jack Williams horse, the very Harris Horse. He was foaled within one hundred rods of my father's house, and I was the first human being the colt ever saw, and the first boy that ever put the bit into his mouth.

These letters enable us to decide, with reasonable safety, that the Morse Horse, the sire of Norman, was by this so-called imported horse; that his dam was by the Harris Hambletonian, a son of Bishop's Hambletonian, a son of imported Messenger, and that the grandam was also, probably, by a son of Messenger. By recurring, also, to the pedigree of Norman, as rendered in the *Trotting Register*, it will be seen that he is credited with a grandam by Bishop's Hambletonian, and this will give Norman three direct crosses of Messenger blood; and the dams of Blackwood and Swigert adding two additional crosses of that blood, all immediate and direct, would present a concentration of that blood which we should look for in the characteristics and blood traits of the two horses under consideration, and we look not in vain. In no family in this country are there found so many traces of the form, type and outward characteristics, as well as the nerve traits of imported Messenger, as we have learned those traits by tradition and the members of the family that have come down to us. Lay your hand on the level but thick and firm withers or shoulders, and you find Messenger—the shoulderblades coming to the top of the withers, and seeming to be one and indistinguishable. Head, forehead and brain, all of the Messenger type; body and barrel, rump, croup and tail after the same model; the whirlbone sits high, and the rump does not droop; the breast and neck and shoulder have all the compact form of Messenger, and the entire hindquarter, save the long thigh and the slender gaskin, which are not Messenger, and in this particular the Messenger model has been entirely overcome.

The so-called imported horse is found in the defective foreleg anatomy. It will be kept in mind that this imported horse was in the highest state of preservation in all respects save his forelegs. He was evidently aged—fifteen to twenty years old—yet a trotter equal to

three minutes, as estimated by those who chronicle him, and a show-horse every inch. But his forelegs were used up. I am compelled to say that the front legs of the Swigert family are not such as I like, and they are the weak point in the family. I know of some complaint on that score, and it should be kept in mind in breeding. A mare with weak front legs or shaky cannons should not be sent to Swigert.

A defective piece of machinery wears out sooner than one that is properly constructed and performs less work. The race horse Henry gave out in his forelegs at the age of six years; and the American Star family acquired their game legs by honest inheritance. These Stars all had what is popularly called knee-action. A fifteen-hand horse, with a front cannon  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , and a forearm  $18\frac{3}{4}$ —mark the measure—such was the Star horse. A short forearm and a long cannon, and the result was they lifted their knees and pounded hard when they struck the ground; the feet and legs, not of the best to begin with, pounded to pieces in short order. A horse that is so constructed will not throw his feet out in front, but he will chop or strike the ground very hard. I have not seen one horse of like proportion that did not strike hard. Fullerton does it, and so did Smuggler. That this family have most likely inherited this foreleg peculiarity from the sire of the Morse Horse, I regard one of the reasonable deductions from experience and common observation, aided by our positive knowledge that the other elements that form so much of the character and make up of these animals were totally different in respect to the point specially under consideration.

It is useless to indulge in any surmise as to the possible blood or composition of this so-called imported horse. Such he may have been, and such he may not have been. He was a horse of positive excellence of character, and one whose blood elements fused or harmonized well and completely with the rich veins of Messenger blood, with which he was crossed in the successive generations that have left us Blackwood, Swigert, Lula and May Queen. That he was himself a grandson of imported Messenger is quite as probable as any part of the legend that he was imported from France.

I must not close this chapter without calling the attention of my readers to the important place the blood of these two stallions is to fill in the future of our American trotters. The high trotting character of the Mambrino Chief, or Duroe-Messenger family, has found ready appreciation in the estimate of many who were yet deterred from resorting to it from what sometimes appears to be a *lack of quality*.

In the blood of these two stallions is found all the trotting force and ready adaptation of the Duroc-Messenger elements, I may say, intensely enriched by the direct, immediate and unrivaled richness of so many currents of the blood of Messenger.

I do not wish to be regarded as exaggerative in any regard, but when I discover in a family what does not come up to my standard of excellence, I call it by the plain term of faulty, and when I discover those qualities which are rich in all that constitutes our American trotter, I as plainly and positively pronounce in their favor. These stallions far surpass their sire, the horse Norman. He lacked the excellences of the Mambrino Chief strain, but carried with him enough of the pure currents of the Messenger blood to purify and, perhaps, to eradicate the tainted and infectious tendencies which the Mambrino Chief blood had derived from Duroc. This addition, however, of that element, enables Blackwood and Swigert to impress trotting tendencies far more strongly on highly bred and non-trotting organisms than Norman could have done. But another reason for their superiority over him is found in the reunion of so many valuable strains of this marvelous blood of old Messenger.

The Mambrino Chief, or Duroc-Messenger sires, have not attained the success with the highly bred Abdallah or Hambletonian dams which has attended the reverse order of breeding. My preference will still be for the same system in breeding, although I think I should send an Abdallah or a Hambletonian mare, if highly bred (and not coming through the Star family), to Blackwood, with the highest expectations of satisfactory results. I can only add, that I look forward to the reunion of the blood of Messenger through these channels with confidence that the standard of our American trotter will thereby be elevated and advanced.

#### BLACKWOOD AS A SIRE.

Blackwood has been a very successful stallion, and has fully justified the high expectations that were entertained of him in the beginning of his career. He is the sire of Blackwood Jr., with record of 2:22½, and sixteen heats in 2:30 or better; Protine, 2:24¼, and eight heats in 2:30 or better; Rosewood, 2:27, and three heats in 2:30 or better; and Wildwood, 2:30.

Blackwood Jr. has been one of the most prominent trotters on the trotting turf for the past two years. He beat Governor Sprague, for the Centennial cup, in 1876, and was the close competitor of Thordale for the championship of 1877, but was beaten by the latter.

I have seen a statement made in Kentucky, having reference to the stud service of Blackwood there, before he was purchased by Mr. Durkee, that out of ten of his produce when he was three and four years old, which have been handled for speed, six became winners.

It is believed he has other progeny that will surpass any of those now before the public, unless it be Protine.

#### SONS OF BLACKWOOD.

**BLACKWOOD JR.** Black stallion, foaled 1871; dam Belle Sheridan, by Blood's Blackhawk; second dam by Moreland's Highlander; third dam by Virginia Whip. Owned by A. H. McKimmin, Nashville, Tennessee. Winner of the National cup at the Centennial.

**FRESHMAN.** Bay stallion, foaled 1871. Dam by Alexander's Edwin Forrest; second dam by Tarleton; third dam by imported Buzzard. Record as a four-year-old, 2:36 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Owned by H. Durkee, Esq.

**GOODWOOD.** A large, brown stallion, foaled 1873. A colt of great conformation, and valued by his owner equally with Blackwood. Dam the dam of Lula, by imported Hooton; second dam by Texas; third dam by Conn's Sir William. Owned by H. Durkee, Esq., New York.

**BROWNWOOD.** Brown stallion, foaled 1871. Dam Mambrino Belle, by McDonald's Mambrino; second dam Belle Sheridan, by Blood's Blackhawk, the dam of Blackwood Jr. This is a horse of magnificent leverage, derived from his dam, her sire being a son of Big Nora, daughter of Mrs. Caudle. He is owned by Dr. H. P. Strong, of Beloit, Wisconsin.

**BLACKWOOD CHIEF.** Brown stallion, foaled 1873. Dam Fayette Belle, by Mambrino Chief, and she was the dam of Mambrino Bertie; second dam Young Flaxy, by Telegraph. Owned at Peru, Illinois.

**INK BLACKWOOD.** Black stallion, foaled 1873. Dam Lady McMann, the dam of Bella, by Jupiter; second dam Lady Sandford, dam of Jay Gould, by American Star; third dam by Exton Eclipse. Owned at Rome, New York.

**McMANN.** Brown stallion, foaled 1873, and full brother to Ink Blackwood. Owned by H. Durkee.

#### SWIGERT AS A SIRE.

Swigert has been a very successful stallion. His owner is a large breeder, and has for a long period been engaged in breeding horses in Racine county, Wisconsin. He was several years since the owner of a son of Hungerford's Blucher, which was bred at Cleveland, Ohio,

and was at first claimed to be a son of Ohio Bellfounder—hence he was called Bellfounder, and finally Richard's Bellfounder. He left a large progeny in Wisconsin, and his daughters are most valuable brood mares. Goldsmith's Abdallah, son of Volunteer, was also located at Racine for a period, and left a valuable produce, many of them from these Blucher mares; hence Swigert was located in a region where he had a large number of excellent mares with which to establish a reputation. His produce all show an early and natural adaptation to the trotting gait. Resolute, when six years old, trotted in 2:34; Fayette, at six, trotted in 2:35; Whitewater Belle, at seven, trotted in 2:34; Rosabella, at four years old, trotted in 2:44, and speeded a quarter at the rate of 2:34; Baybrino, at five years old, trotted a quarter at the rate of 2:30; the Beale Mare, owned in Milwaukee, has trotted in 2:38 as a six-year-old; Racine Maid, owned by A. P. Dutton, trotted a quarter in 37, half in 1:19, and a full mile in 2:40½, before she was four years old; Jannette, a black filly, dam by Eureka, when three years old, trotted a quarter at rate of 2:50; Stella, dam a thoroughbred—Puss Ferris, by Wagner—at four years old, trotted in 2:46.

I may say that Swigert was not handled until he was ten years old, and at eleven he was exhibited at the Wisconsin State Fair, and trotted a mile in 2:30, a half in 1:13. He now, in the month of June, 1878, weighs 1,230 lbs.

#### SONS OF SWIGERT.

OPAL is a black stallion, foaled in 1870; dam by Hungerford's Blucher; bred and owned by Geo. D. Doubleday, of Whitewater, Wisconsin.

GOVERNOR HAYES. Brown stallion, foaled 1870; dam by son of Hungerford's Blucher. Bred and owned by Wm. Pierce, Racine county, Wis. He has trotted in 2:31 at six years old.

DIXIE. Brown stallion, foaled 1870; dam by son of Hungerford's Blucher. Bred by Jas. Reynolds, of Milwaukee. Has record of 2:34, and has trotted one or more campaigns.

RICHARD R. Black stallion, foaled 1870; dam by Vermont Boy, son of Vermont Blackhawk. Bred by Edward D. Davis, Racine Wis.; owned by R. Barden, St. Paul, Minn. He trotted in 2:36 before he was five years old.

RUCHEL; owned by A. F. Phillips, of Rockford, Ill.; dam Virginia, by Goldsmith's Abdallah; second dam by son of Hungerford's



Blucher. A full brother of this horse is owned at Flint, Mich., by Foster and Goodwill.

SWIGERT, a brown colt, foaled 1876; dam by Goldsmith's Abdallah; second dam by son of Hungerford's Blucher; is owned by Gilbert Adams, of Racine county, Wis., and is a very promising colt, referred to at the close of Chapter II.

ROBINSON is a brown stallion, owned by Mr. Wood, La Crosse, Wis. His dam was by Whitestockings, a grandson of Hungerford's Blucher. A good trotter at four years old, and trotted quarters in 35 seconds.

VERO is one of the very promising sons of Swigert; foaled 1875; dam Lady Jane, by Goldsmith's Abdallah; second dam Dollabella, by son of Hungerford's Blucher. He is owned by George W. Graves, of Rochester, Minn.

Another son of Swigert, foaled 1875, owned by Thos. Rowlands, of Genesee, Wis.; dam Lady Belle, by son of Hungerford's Blucher; second dam the thoroughbred mare, Mary Bird, by imp. Mickey Free.

#### DON CARLOS.

Besides the foregoing distinguished stallions, Norman left another son, named Don Carlos; a dark bay stallion, foaled 1870. Dam Ella Jackson, by Ewalt's Abdallah, son of Alexander's Abdallah. He is owned by Geo. N. Ferguson & Son, of the city of New York, and I find an item in a turf journal giving a report of a private trial at Fleetwood Park, when he was seven years old. It is described as a racing-like trial of three heats, without a skip or break, in 2:29½, 2:27½, and 2:29¼; also that on another occasion he trotted a half mile in 1:10½. He is described as a dark bay, upward of sixteen hands high. He is scarcely known to the public, but his breeding should commend him to favorable consideration. I have never seen this stallion, but assuming that he is correctly represented in the pedigree and description above set forth, I should incline to the opinion that he is a valuable stallion. He will differ widely from the two foregoing stallions in that he will be totally lacking in the Duroc-Messenger characteristics. The union presented in him will be watched with interest, and should he fail as a stallion, it will be still more suggestive of the remarkable qualities of that Duroc-Messenger combination that affords a ready and fertile field for every good sire.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### PILOT AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

IN attempting to give the origin of Pilot, the Canadian Pacer, we are carried back to the earliest period of American history. The horse was not one of the aborigines of this continent. Soon after the discovery by Columbus, horses were introduced in the Spanish-American countries, and in the ever varying vicissitudes of the Spanish conquest large numbers of both sexes must have escaped to the wild and fertile regions of the tropical plains of South America and Mexico, from which the wild horses so abundant in those regions have descended. In the year 1604, M. L'Escarbot, a French lawyer, brought a large importation of horses and other domestic animals to Acadia, and subsequently, in 1608, the French, extending their colonization to the region of Canada, brought horses to the country bordering the St. Lawrence.

These horses at that date took the name of French horses, and the designation follows them to the present day. That they were anciently from the same stock whence descended the Percheron or Norman stock is understood by all who have made any efforts to trace their origin, and this carries us back to the early introduction of the blood horse into France. That he was in part of the blood of the Andalusian horse which came with the Saracen conquest of Spain, along with the Moor from Barbary and the North of Africa is also a matter of history, but after the Conquest, the Barb, thus introduced, found in France and Spain, in the horses that preceded the Saracen conquest, abundant elements of kindred blood, the same pure strains of Barbary and Arabia, that the Carthagenians in their wars of conquest under the great Hannibal had introduced from the same deserts of Numidia and Barbary.

Hannibal, at the head of a vast army, embracing nearly ten thousand cavalry, all of them of the blood of the desert, and mostly, doubtless, stallions, traversed that part of Europe from Spain to Italy. The

influence of this invasion upon the horse stock of subsequent centuries may be estimated by supposing that the Moslem power of to-day should traverse Europe from Constantinople to Moscow, to Berlin and Paris, with ten thousand Arab and Barb cavalry, mostly stallions, and leave by the wayside only the aged, the infirm, and those maimed or crippled by the mishaps of war. The blood of the European horses would show the results of the invasion centuries after every other monument recording the event had passed away. The footprints of the invader would pass away and become obliterated before the advancing civilization of a superior race, but the blood of the Arab steeds would never totally disappear.

Such was the origin of the French horse, and in that remote germ, we recognize the antecedent of the so-called French Canadian of to-day.

A climate of severity, and ill-usage, have not tended to develop them in size or fineness of quality, but the original traits of docility, hardiness and speed have been transmitted from generation to generation. The hair has grown coarser, the manes and tails heavy and displaying a peculiar curly or wavy and long flowing fullness, while the legs have come to display a shaggy growth at the fetlock, giving the appearance of hardiness and adaptation to long and severe winters, which have, in great part, stunted and impoverished the fare on which they have subsisted for so long a period.

The characteristics of this race were seen in Pilot, in perfection. He was a black stallion, under fifteen hands in height. He had a plain head—not in any sense a coarse one, a neck of fair length, but thick and somewhat heavy about the throat and windpipe. His mane was coarse, heavy and long, and of that wavy curl which characterizes the true French Canadian. His tail was of the same quality. He was closely built, possessing an exceedingly muscular conformation in every part—a sloping rump—the reverse of the goose rump so common in other families. He was long in his quarters, and his hock was low down. He possessed a vigorous constitution and a very earnest, positive temperament—qualities which he transmitted to his own offspring, and which his descendants possess and transmit in great force. He was a horse of *cut-iron* materials, and not in any sense one of the *bandbox* variety.

He had come from a stock that knew hard usage, and to him hard knocks were the fare on which he had been reared. Though a small horse he had great power, both to carry weight and to endure

long distance. He could pace a mile in 2:26, and carry a man that weighed one hundred and sixty-five pounds on his back. He was first known at New Orleans where he was found in the hands of a peddler, and was purchased for \$1,000 by Major O. Dubois. This was about the year 1832, and he was then called six years old. He was soon afterward sold to D. Heinshon, Esq., of Louisville, Kentucky, and was kept in that State until his death in 1855. His location was a fortunate one, for as it was found that he crossed well with anything and everything, he there had more varied opportunities than could have been found elsewhere. He came upon the stage when Kentucky abounded in thoroughbreds, and, in addition, the best saddle horses of America, and when attention was beginning also to turn toward the roadster as a driving horse. His immediate descendants found the taste for the latter in the course of full development.

The crossing of his blood with that of the other pacers then in Kentucky and adjacent regions, with the saddle stock descended from the varied sources then existing in that State, and particularly with mares having one or several crosses of the thoroughbred, and with those of the common stock whose origin was utterly unknown, gave such evidences of success that he must be regarded as one of the most remarkably impressive sires that ever appeared in this country; and it may be remarked that this peculiar trait which marked his service in the stud, also characterizes the blood of his descendants, in whatever combination it may be found. It suits well with everything, and every blood seems to cross well with it. It does not seem to be an element that stands in the way anywhere; it fuses and harmonizes with any and all. It is true it has its qualities of coarseness, and it carries them along in a degree, but it infuses vigor and hardiness in places where there is need of it, and some such there are to be found in this country among the good blood as well as those which are lacking in quality. He not only produced fast performers, but his sons have been noted for the quality of also reproducing the fast elements for which he was noted, both in the trotters and the pacers.

His most distinguished sons were the fast pacers Tecumseh, Roanoke, and Nigger Baby, and the trotter Native; and as sires, the stallions Pilot Jr., Tom Crowder, Old Tecumseh, Ole Bull, Young's Pilot, Taylor's Pilot, and Chew's Pilot. Besides the above, he produced a large number of pacers and trotters that scattered all over the Union, and are found in pedigrees of many horses at this time. Tecumseh,

the chestnut gelding, paced a mile by the record in 2:20 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and Roan-oake, a roan gelding, made a record as pacer of 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Both of these were noted horses on the turf.

TOM CROWDER was one of the most successful stallions among the sons of Pilot. His dam was Polly Hopkins, a well bred mare by Slasham, he by Comet, by Blackburn's Whip, and her dam was also by Whip. He could pace in 2:30, and produced the stallions Tom Wonder, a pacer, from a mare by Woodpecker, with record of 2:18; Daniel Boone, out of a mare by Copperbottom, and he was a fast pacer; also another Tom Crowder, 2:33 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and another of same name that produced the trotter Marion, 2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and nine heats in 2:30. He was also sire of Bay Sally that paced in 2:22, and twelve heats in 2:30. He was also sire of the dam of Doble. Tom Crowder was also sire of Crazy Nick, the sire of Charles W. Woolley, 2:29, and three heats in 2:30; and John W. Conley, son of Tom Wonder, is sire of Drummer Boy, a trotter, 2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The stallion TOM WONDER, son of Tom Crowder, dam by Woodpecker, was a horse of great ability. He was sire of the trotters John W. Conley, 2:24, and seven heats in 2:30; another Tom Wonder, 2:27, and John Stewart, a long distance trotter. His dam was by Harris' Hambletonian, and his record was 2:30, and he trotted ten miles in 28:08 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and he also made twenty miles to wagon in 59:23, best time for wagon on record. He made another race of twenty and one-half miles in 59:31 $\frac{1}{4}$ , best time on record for the distance. Tom Wonder was a grey stallion, about 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  hands high.

DANIEL BOONE was a bay stallion, about 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  hands high, a very compact and powerful horse, and a superior sire, and was sire of Cooley, a trotter, 2:26, and ten heats in 2:30 or better.

OLE BULL was the sire of Jim Rockey, a trotter, 2:24 $\frac{3}{4}$ , with forty-one heats in 2:30 or better.

#### PILOT JR.

Through Pilot Jr. the blood of the black Canadian pacer has been rendered a substantial and popular element in the American roadster and trotting horse. He was a grey horse, and was foaled in 1844. His dam was Nancy Pope, by Havoc; second dam Nancy Taylor, by Alfred, son of imp. Medley. Havoc was by Sir Charles, son of Sir Archy. He died in 1865.

I have constantly taught the doctrine or principle, that great and marked changes in type and character must be accomplished grad-

ually; that the union of two diverse and nearly foreign bloods, must be reached and accomplished by gradual approaches; that to do this, the full bloods of either race must not be employed when intermediate grades are within reach. It was by such a process that the blood of Pilot has been rendered available and infused into the best of our trotting families. The dam and grandam of Pilot Jr. were highly bred but part bred mares, each having a strong infusion of road or trotting elements, and the traces of racing blood were much weakened thereby. By such means Pilot Jr. became a horse which was adapted to crossing on mares possessed of a strong infusion of racing blood. Pilot, the original, could not have reached such mares and imparted to their progeny as strong an impress of his own qualities, as could his son, which only possessed half of his own Canadian character. But Pilot Jr. met all such on the breeder's well known plane of consanguinity, and was one of the most successful sires, with mares of racing blood, that we have ever bred. He stands first on the record in that qualification.

Pilot Jr. was a horse full  $15\frac{1}{2}$  hands high, of great compactness and high quality. He showed the true courage and spirit of a great race horse. He was very muscular and well formed all over, and showed much of that severe positiveness of quality and character which marked the descendants of Pilot when crossed with highly bred mares. He was one of the most valuable stallions ever owned in the State of Kentucky, and his sons and daughters have been highly prized both on the turf and in the breeding lists.

He was sire of many of the early trotters, and his sons and daughters have been distinguished in the present day in the very large list of fast horses they present, and in the collateral branches they have formed by union with other families. His own sons show records and produce as follows: Pilot Temple, 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ , the veteran of many campaigns, and forty-four heats in 2:30 or better; also the mare Tackey, 2:26, and ten heats in 2:30 or better; Queen of the West, 2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Tennessee, 2:40; Gen. Sherman, 2:28 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Dixie, 2:30; Black Pilot, 2:28 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Bolly Lewis, 2:29; Ethelbert, (2:29 $\frac{1}{4}$ ); Volunteer, 2:32 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Bull Run, 2:32 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Dudley, 2:32 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Pilot Mambrino, 2:35 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Hyman, (2:28\*), 2:37; Grey Dick, 2:39 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Pilot Hutchinson (2:25\*), 2:40; Roscoe, sire of Black Pilot, 2:31.

His daughter, Santa Maria, was dam of Hylas, by Alcalde, dam by Pilot Jr., 2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; dam also of Billy Hoskins, 2:26 $\frac{1}{4}$ . His daughter Flora (2:24\*) is dam of Crittenden (2:27\*). His daughter Water-

witch, dam of Mambrino Gift, 2:20, and he by Mambrino Pilot, 2:27½, out of Juliet, another daughter. Mambrino Pilot is sire of Hannis, 2:19¼, Mambrino Gift, as above stated, and Morning, 2:30, and many others. (The asterisks indicate private time, not of record.)

The foregoing hasty retrospect, however, does injustice to the real greatness of Pilot Jr. He was the sire of

#### WOODBURN PILOT.

Woodburn Pilot was a large black horse, over sixteen hands high. His dam was a grey mare by Mambrino Chief, and the grandam by the old Indiana pacing stallion Redbuck, son of Copperbottom. He was a horse of immense substance and powerful trotting action. He was foaled the property of E. S. Wadsworth, Esq., of Chicago, and was sold by him for \$10,000, at six years of age, to the Vermont Horse Stock Company.

He was able to trot in 2:28, but kept constantly in the stud, where if he had had proper selection of mares he would have proved a great success.

His son Argonaut will not lower the standard of the family in all probability—from present indications—but he must tell his own story.

#### ARGONAUT.

He is a dark bay stallion, foaled in 1872. His dam was Minnie Clyde, by Toronto, son of St. Lawrence; second dam was the sister of Jim Porter, by Downing's Bay Messenger; third dam Madam Porter, by Roman's Orphan Boy; fourth dam by Bertrand; fifth dam by Sir Archy. Roman's Orphan Boy, by Orphan Boy, son of American Eclipse. The dam of Toronto was by Cadmus, the thoroughbred son of Eclipse. If he shall fall behind the first stallion of his family he will not equal the expectations of those who know him best.

#### TATTLER.

I have referred to the blood composition of Pilot Jr., and the breeding process by which he was rendered the most efficient and impressive sire we have yet seen with mares of racing blood.

Pilot Jr. was the sire of the noted trotter Medoc or John Morgan. His dam was a Duroc-Messenger mare. She was named Croppy, and was by Medoc, the great son of American Eclipse, her dam by Rattler, her second dam by imp. Spread Eagle, from a noted mare sent by Chief Justice John Marshall into Kentucky, and said to be thorough-

bred. John Morgan trotted to a record of 2:24, and made six heats in 2:30. I now recall no trotter from a thoroughbred mare his equal. But the greatness of Pilot Jr. had still a greater measure. His son Tattler places him on a plane never yet reached by another trotting stallion.

The dam of Tattler was a strictly thoroughbred mare. She was Telltale, by Telamon, a thoroughbred son of Medoc, dam Flea, by Medoc; second dam Martha Darneal, by Sumter; Arminda, by Doublehead; Dux, by imp. Buzzard; by Columbus; by Wildair; by Mark Anthony; by Partner; by imp. Traveller; by imp. Jolly Roger.

I set out the pedigree in full, as it is an instance which has no parallel in our breeding annals. From such a mare Pilot Jr. produced Tattler, a dark bay stallion, of even but powerful build, smooth and clean cut, and looking very much like Alhambra when the latter was eight years old.

Tattler is owned by H. N. Smith, Esq., at the Fashion Stud Farm, Trenton, New Jersey. He has a public record of 2:26, and is the sire of a stallion and a trotter which to-day stands in the list of the champions of the American trotting turf. Such another trotting stallion from a thoroughbred mare we have not yet produced. He shows all the strength and quality of the thoroughbred—has the strong trotting character and form of Pilot Jr., and trotting action nowhere surpassed. Such is Tattler. He is the sire of Indianapolis, record 2:31 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and a private trial, 2:25.

#### VOLTAIRE.

This is a stallion worthy of a place and a sketch among the first of his race and the age in which he lives.

He is owned by Wm. H. Peck, Esq., of Hartford, Connecticut, a gentleman whom I first met on Kentucky soil, and one whom it is a delight and an honor to meet anywhere. I find a sketch of Voltaire in a public print, which, with slight change, I here reproduce as part of my notice of this now justly celebrated stallion:

Voltaire is a ten-year-old dark bay stallion, by Tattler; dam Young Portia, by Mambrino Chief; second dam by Roebuck; third dam by Whip. He is a very dark bay, with no white; stands fifteen and a half hands high, a horse of great substance for his inches, weighing nearly one thousand one hundred pounds, in good road condition. He is upheaded, goes in great style, and is a hard one to whip in any class. Starting in June, without a record, he met and defeated some of the best horses on the turf, winning six successive victories,



without a defeat, and winding up his trotting season in a blaze of glory, at the National Breeders' Meeting, by winning the 2:20 stallion purse, beating such good ones as Blackwood Jr. and Nil Desperandum, and lowering his record to 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

His breeding represents three trotting crosses, and the balance thoroughbred blood, which helps to account for his wonderful staying qualities. He has beauty of form and color, very rapid action, fine disposition, and is as game a horse "as ever looked through a bridle." As a five-year-old he was started in one race which was won by the then famous Clementine, Voltaire's time being 2:34 $\frac{1}{2}$ . As a six-year-old he did not appear in public, but in his seven-year-old form he trotted two races in one week, and was beaten by such horses as St. Julien and Orient, either of whom could trot close to 2:20. He did not start in 1876, being badly handled, and made his first appearance in 1877 at Mystic Park, Boston, June 5, in the 2:50 class, which he won after a hard-fought contest of five heats, beating Powers, the hitherto invincible son of Volunteer, and gaining a record of 2:24. At Beacon Park, Boston, June 12, he again defeated Powers in a race of five heats, and trotted in 2:24. At Granite State Park, New Hampshire, June 19, Voltaire and Powers renewed the struggle, and Powers again met defeat, after a five-heat race, Voltaire winning the last three heats. August 28, at Charter Oak Park, he met and defeated such horses as Honest Harry, Tom Keeler, Richard, and Alley, another fast son of Volunteer. This race created great excitement, and was won by the pluck and indomitable courage of the Hartford stallion, in spite of a strong combination to beat him, and an effort to break down his sulky. This, as usual for *him*, was a five-heat contest, but it was in reserve for him to win an easy victory (the first of the season) the following week, at Mystic Park, which he did in three straight heats, over the same field of horses as at Hartford, and trotting the third heat in 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ , the fastest of the race. His race at the National Breeders' Association Meeting, at Hartford, was won in great style, trotting the last three heats without a break, lowering his record to 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and placing himself in the foremost rank of trotting stallions. He has now the fastest record in the State, beating Jefferson's record one and three-quarters seconds, and the second fastest record in New England, the famous Smuggler standing first.

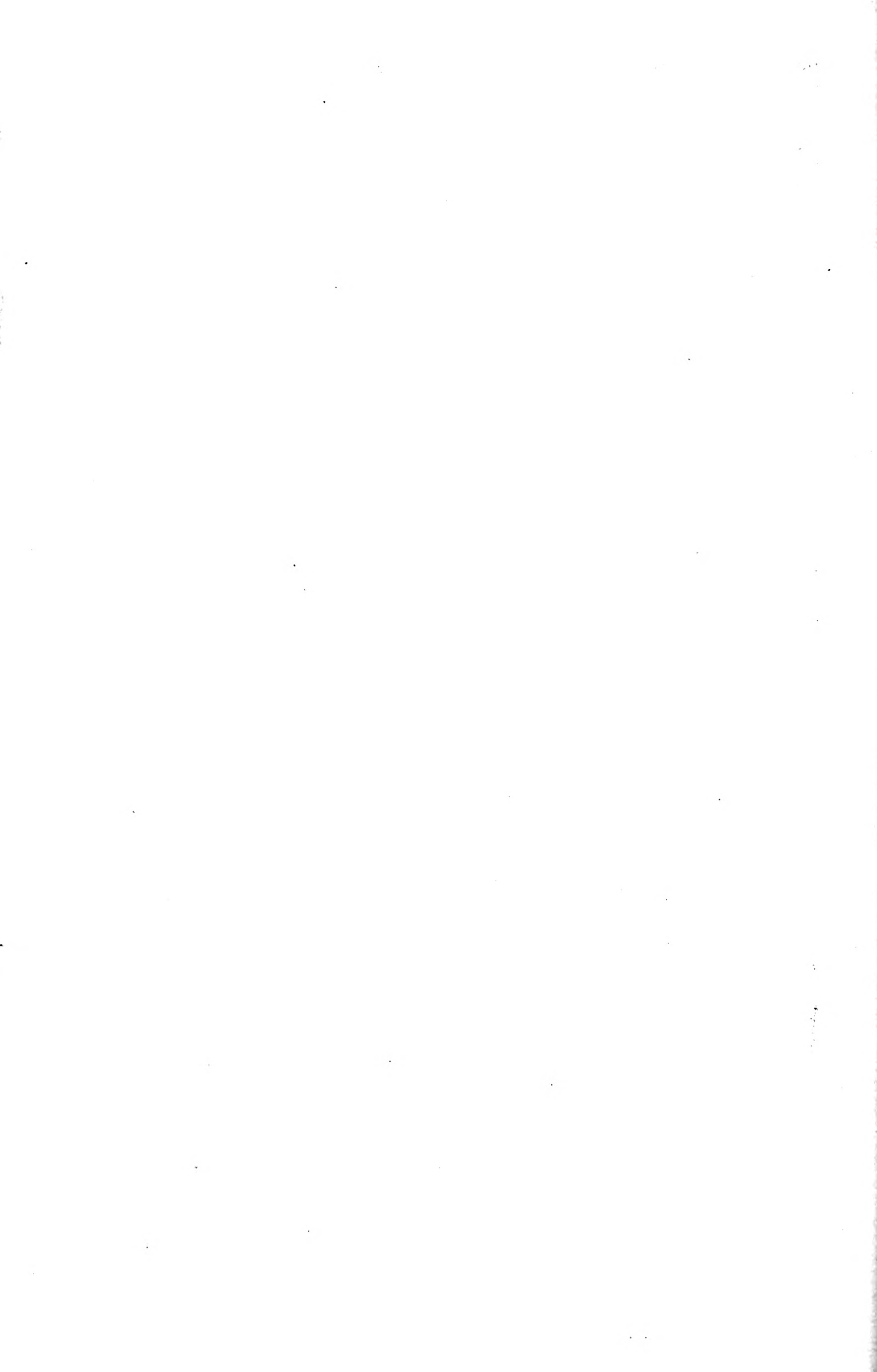
His career marks him as one of the most successful trotting stallions that have ever appeared on our trotting turf.

In the progress of these chapters I have steadily taught the lesson that in our American roadsters and trotting horses we had certain very valuable lines of trotting blood, and had reached such an advanced stage of breeding as to render it unnecessary and unadvisable to go outside these elements and resort to any new strains of blood, however attractive they may be; that it is also certainly true that all excellence for trotting purposes does not belong exclusively to one line of breeding. I have also shown that in the Messenger family, closely in-bred and in certain lines of racing blood, there is a ten-



VOLTAIRE,

Winner of the National Breeders' Stake, 1877.



dency toward a retrograde of trotting quality, and that it was necessary to resort to some of our well known and tried crosses to reinforce the trotting quality of such families.

In this stallion Voltaire we find no Abdallah and no Bellfounder blood, but a horse of commanding size, of fine form; stamina and endurance in the highest degree; courage and tractability which nothing can daunt or disconcert; and a trotting impulse so natural, so absorbing, so powerful, that he will trot through three consecutive heats in a race close to 2:20, without a single skip or break. With such an organism, where is the limit to his capacity? How fast can he be made to go? That is a problem for those who go against, rather than those who go with him. To what does he owe his greatness? is the question of value and interest to us, as students in the school of breeding trotters.

I answer the question, that he owes it to two important elements, both of which have been reached as we have reached him—by breeding processes. Withdraw either of these and his greatness is impaired. Commencing at the last first—in his sire we have successfully combined the blood of Pilot, the pacer, the Kanuck, for such he was, with that of the highly bred race horse of pure Arab descent, in such manner as to give complete and perfect harmony; the galloping instincts of the racer are completely subordinated to the trotting impulses of the roadster. Secondly, another element is attained in the union of the blood of Duroc and of Messenger in both the sire and the dam, in such way as to take up, appropriate and apply all the qualities of speed and trotting action in either Pilot or the racing crosses which enter into the combination, and the product is a stallion of the most positive caste—a trotter almost without superiors and with few equals. That he will prove a royal trotting sire, is assured by all the renown of Pilot Jr., by the success of Tattler, and by the sovereign richness of Mambrino Chief, and the now illustrious train that acknowledge descent from his blood. His high breeding, his magnificent form and exuberant trotting quality, stamp him as one of the triumphs of the age.

With such a stallion to cross on the highly bred mares by Idol and Ashland, on the Royal Georges from Jefferson, on the daughters of Smuggler, and the closely bred Hambletonians and Fearnoughts, and the more advanced and highly bred descendants of the Morgan stock, New England will make an advance in breeding that will recall all the glories of the richest days of the early Messengers.

Voltaire now stands credited with a record of 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and fifteen heats in 2:30 or better. He is in trotting condition now, and before the close of 1878 will probably have opportunity to try conclusions with the champion of 1877, and the defeated stallion in that contest will carry away no dishonor from having appeared against an unworthy opponent.

The successes of Pilot Jr. and Mambrino Chief run hand in hand. From daughters of Pilot Jr., Mambrino Chief achieved some of his most signal successes, more particularly, however, when with the blood of Pilot Jr. there were also commingled strains of Duroc-Messenger blood.

Juliet by Pilot Jr. became the dam of Mambrino Pilot, and I have shown his success, and that of his son, Mambrino Gift, from another daughter of Pilot Jr.

Another daughter was the dam of the Mambrino Chief stallion, Alcalde, a successful sire.

Mambrino Gift, whose dam was also a daughter of Pilot Jr., was confessedly one of the best trotting stallions this country has ever produced. His death was a great loss to the breeding interests of the country, and along with Voltaire would have furnished an outcross for the closely bred Hambletonian and other Messenger families of very great and positive value.

Kate, the grandam of Almont, was by Pilot Jr., and the power that Almont possesses of imparting the trotting quality to the produce of all classes of mares, and particularly those that are thoroughbred and descended from the thoroughbred, must in part be credited to this quality inherited from Pilot Jr.

The Hambletonian blood had not that quality, and while it is true that it was displayed by Mambrino Chief in high degree, the descendants of the black pacer seem to rival any that we have seen in respect to the quality referred to. Mambrino Chief's success with such mares was greatest when they partook of his own lines of blood—Duroc and Messenger. Pilot Jr. was more universal in his success with racing mares than was Mambrino Chief.

The blood of Pilot Jr., crossed with that of thoroughbred mares, has produced the fastest trotters and the fastest trotting sires of any thus descended that we have seen in this country. In such union it stands ahead of all others.

Miss Russell, by Pilot Jr., from a thoroughbred mare, Sally Russell, by Boston, is the dam of Nutwood, by Belmont, that stands at 2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and is the best one, by the record, that Belmont can claim.

The other sons of Pilot seemed also to possess this quality of impressing their own trotting and pacing gaits on the produce of thoroughbred mares. The son of Ole Bull, Jim Rockey, came from a mare by American Eclipse, said to be thoroughbred. The grandam of Crittenden was referred to in my chapter on Almont. She was a thoroughbred mare, or of that blood so far as her pedigree extended. She produced two daughters, one from Alexander's Abdallah, the great son of Hambletonian, and sire of Goldsmith Maid, Thorndale and Almont, but this mare was of no particular consequence as a trotter or dam of trotters. The blood of Hambletonian did not find a suitable field with the thoroughbreds; but the same mare from Pilot Jr. raised the mare Flora, that trotted in 2:24, and became the dam of Crittenden that trotted in 2:27.

In the foregoing sketch relative to the descendants of Pilot, I have been greatly aided by an elaborate series of articles found in *Dunton's Spirit of the Turf*, from which I have drawn largely, and give the time both of record and that not of record, indicated by an asterisk (\*), as there stated, not having had the means at hand of wholly verifying the same.

It will be seen from this rapid review, that the blood of Pilot has already been widely diffused in the ranks of our trotting horses. The very fast time made by so large a number, and the various strains of other blood they have presented, show how universal has been the success of this cross. It has not been twenty-five years since the death of Pilot, yet his descendants already are formed into many subfamilies, and the new and distinguished trotters that are yearly added to the list, always find some representatives of the black pacer among their number.

The characteristics of the Pilot blood are quite similar to those of the other pacing families of Canadian descent. They all show certain peculiarities common to the race. They are extremely hardy, and generally long lived. They come to maturity at an early age. They have very superior feet, in fact, no family of horses in the world surpass them for the toughness of the hoofs and the general soundness of their feet. They cross with thoroughbred and other highly bred strains, and in the union exhibit the same qualities with very great uniformity. They do not incline to the galloping gait, but readily adopt either the pacing or the trotting gaits. They exhibit the same tendency to increase in size and power when crossed with other highly bred families, and they exhibit all the elements of speed

in high degree. The foregoing may be said to be the common characteristics of the descendants of Columbus, St. Lawrence and Pilot. They have other points in common. They have a little too much weight and thickness in the neck and in the region of the windpipe. They are usually rather thick in the jaws, and the head is not quite so lean and bony as in the more highly bred families. Their brain power may not be so clear and steady as that of the horse descended from the blood of Messenger. Some of them have not displayed the same steadiness and desperate courage, that high nerve and mental quality that marks the real blood horse. But for all this, they are ready and free drivers, and when properly handled, they are bold and courageous. While, perhaps, lacking in some of the higher and finer qualities of the blood horse, they are nevertheless a very vigorous and valuable outcross, and one that harmonizes well with all other bloods.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### THE MORGANS.

IF there ever was any horse entitled to the distinction of having founded a family and imparted to them the strongest possible lineaments of form and character, that horse was Justin Morgan. The family had its origin three-quarters of a century ago. It became the dominant horse of New England for a third of a century, and has been prominent in numbers and popular in the esteem of horsemen and home circles in more than half of the States of this Union. It is a family which has been marked by greater uniformity in form, character and general utility than any breed of horses ever known in this country. While in their original and pure state they combined no elements of real greatness, they embraced no lines of inferiority—their excellence, if only mediocre, was universal.

### THEIR PROGENITOR.

I make the following extracts from Linsley on the Morgan Horses:

The different accounts that have been circulated in regard to the origin of the Morgan breed of horses, agree that they are descended from a horse called the Justin Morgan, who derived his name from Mr. Justin Morgan, of Randolph, Vt., once his owner. As to the origin of the Justin Morgan, however, they differ widely.

The fact that little or no interest was felt in the subject until after the death of Mr. Morgan, and indeed until after the death of his horse, will account for this diversity.

Almost half a century passed away before any serious effort was made to determine the origin of an animal, whose value was daily more and more appreciated. After the death of Mr. Morgan the horse passed through several hands, and was kept at different places, and when at length serious inquiry was awakened on the subject, it was found that Mr. Morgan had left no written pedigree of his horse, and different reports of what he said in relation to it got into circulation.

We think it may be considered as certain, that during Mr. Morgan's life and



until long after his death, very little interest was felt in the question, "What was the exact pedigree of the horse?" When the inquiry became interesting, and discussion arose, different stories were current, and opinions were frequently formed in accordance with previous prejudices or views of the individual forming them, as to the value of different breeds of horses. Some, holding the opinion that no valuable horse could be expected without a great deal of racing blood, sought to make it appear that he was nearly thoroughbred. Others having less faith in the English racer, entertained different opinions, and adopted for their creed stories that ascribed to him a very different origin. No person seemed to take the matter in hand and investigate it thoroughly, until those who might have given the necessary information were gone.

It is not now probable that the blood of the Justin Morgan can ever be exactly and absolutely ascertained. We think, however, it may be considered certain that this unrivaled animal was produced by a cross of the Arabian or thoroughbred with the common stock, but the proportion of each can not now be determined.

There are no opinions that men maintain so strenuously, and give up so reluctantly, as those which they form and publicly avow upon matters in which they are supposed by others to be particularly well informed. This is more especially true when these opinions entertained and expressed, relate to matters of practical importance, and not simply to some abstract doctrine.

From all the evidences which have been advanced with regard to the question of the breeding or origin of this horse, I think we are reasonably safe in the following summary: He was foaled in 1793, at or near Springfield, Massachusetts, and his sire was *True Briton*, or *Beautiful Bay*, a horse owned by Sealy Norton, of East Hartford, Connecticut, and then kept by John Morgan, at West Springfield, Mass.

Mr. Wallace, in the first volume of the *Trotting Register*, gives the pedigree and speaks as follows:

JUSTIN MORGAN, b. h., foaled 1793; got by True Briton; also called "Beautiful Bay," that was advertised at East Hartford, 1791. The advertisement says "his sire was the imported horse Traveller, owned in New Jersey; his dam Delaney's imp. racer." Imported Traveller never was in New Jersey, but his son, Lloyd's Traveller, 2561, of the Stud Book, was owned there, and was doubtless the horse intended. Delaney imported several mares that ran, but there are no means of determining which one is referred to. The presumption is very plain that True Briton or Beautiful Bay was thoroughbred. The dam of Justin Morgan was represented to be of the "Wildair breed." A grandson of imp. Wildair, bearing his name, stood in that vicinity, 1780, and subsequent years. His pedigree is not given in his advertisement farther than is here indicated. Other authorities say the mare in question was a daughter of the Lindsey Arabian, but she was more probably a granddaughter, as Lindsey Arabian, or Ranger, as then called, was not

advertised in Hartford later than 1775. Soon after this period he was taken to Maryland. There is a strong probability that some of the blood of this famous Arabian flows in the veins of the Morgan family. But whether this theory be correct or not, he evidently possessed a large share of good blood, as his progeny so uniformly partook of certain fixed characteristics which were his own. He was the founder of that particular race which, for so many years were sought for at high prices from all parts of the country, and which made their breeders rich. Bred in Springfield, Mass.; bought by Justin Morgan, 1795 (then two years old), and taken to Randolph, Vt. Died in the winter of 1821, near Chelsea, Vt.

These were statements made by those who gave the subject attention in the early days of investigation in reference to the matter, but it must be observed that great allowance must be made with regard to all the information we have on the subject. By some it was at an early day suggested that Morgan was a Canadian, and much has been said in support and in refutation of that suggestion. The points of similarity and of dissimilarity between the Morgan and the Canadian have been presented, and we may derive some instruction from a review of them. I quote from Linsley's book, as follows:

The broad, courageous-looking head, with ears far apart, thick neck, with general stoutness of frame, full breast and strong shoulder, with a round or fleshy croup; the low-set muscles and large sinews, with those tough feet that know not disease, are distinguishing marks of the French Canadian horse.

The shagginess or abundance of hair in the mane and tail and on the legs are much owing to the severity of the climate, with the manner of rearing the animals, and may be expected in a great measure to disappear under good cultivation, long before the innate excellences and peculiarities will perceptibly change.

The Morgan horse does not partake of all these marks in common with the Canadian. The clear, and deep-toned bay color, too, which prevails in the Morgan, is rare among Canadian horses. It occurs in individuals; but unless characteristic of the race for a long period of time, it could hardly be supposed that this color would so generally occur as it does in the Morgan horses of the present day. Peculiarities produced by a single cross are apt to wear away in a few generations, unless maintained by careful selection on the part of the breeder. If, then (supposing the Morgan horse to have come from Canada) his color was an accidental variety, it would not have so generally marked his numerous offspring, unless great pains were taken to preserve it by selection, which has not been the case. It appears evident from the prevalence of this color through several successive generations, as well as the similar descent of various qualities, which are authenticated as having belonged to the first known sire, that the Morgan horse, whatever may have been his origin, was of one pure stock; that is, that he was not cross-bred, or produced by the union of two different breeds, for in that case, there must have been a greater variety in his progeny, some running to one family, and some to the other;

whereas a remarkable similarity is known to prevail in all of this race. And here we may notice that the breeder is apt to find an essential difference in the two races; the Morgan, crossed or mixed with the various common breeds, inclines to retain its peculiar characteristics and its small size in the offspring for many generations, while all the French Canadian races, though not larger for the most part than the Morgan, when used as a cross, increase the size of the progeny, and frequently assimilate so that the blood can only be recognized by a practiced observer, in the greater development and robustness of form, and the courage, spirit, and aptness to thrive, which are commonly reckoned as constitutional health.

The Morgans differ essentially from the Canadian horses in their action or mode of traveling. A Morgan horse glides over the ground eight or nine miles an hour, with such easy movements of his legs, that one would think they only felt relieved when so employed; the Canadian, if he has speed, seems to go by main strength, every stride arising plainly from a purposed exertion of his powerful muscles.

Another principal dissimilarity is in the endurance of the feet; and here the Canadian horse has all the advantage. The Morgan appears to be subject, as much as equally strong-constituted horses of any breed, to founder, and other diseases of the feet, while with the Canadian such ailments are less known, perhaps, than with any other breed in the world. There are numbers of horses in Canada that, under a mass of shaggy hair, possess dry, sinewy legs, on which the severest service never raises a wind-gall. The legs of the Morgan, though destitute of long hair, have this excellent conformation in a very high degree.

The Morgan is a great traveler; an untiring, all-day horse, but seldom a very fast trotter or galloper, and less frequently a perfect saddle horse. The Canadian, if he has the power of rapid locomotion, inclines for the most part to put forth his energies only for a short time, and then to take a leisurely gait, as if a slight sense of fatigue overbalanced the alacrity of his nervous system. There are, however, splendid exceptions to this description; horses that with no light load behind them will travel eighty and even ninety miles in a day. Some of the light-footed Canadian horses, too, are very pleasant under the saddle, though in general the weight of the neck and uprightness of the shoulder disqualify them for this use. The head of the Morgan, though not less energetic, is somewhat dissimilar to that of the Canadian. The ears of one are upright; of the other, more apart. The head of the Canadian horse is broader at the upper part than that of the other. Each has a great space between the eyes, which is considered a sure indication of energy in an animal. The Morgan has the best open nostril for wind and bottom, more like that of a race horse; and the whole of the muzzle, as well as the eye and ear, indicate more breeding, or a longer cultivation than those of the Canadian. There is a difference of shape observable throughout the whole figure. The Morgan is long in the side, but always short on the back, and strong and beautiful in the loins. His fine shoulder, too, differs from that of the Canadian horse. It is deep, well sloped, comparatively thin at the top, and heavy at the bottom, serving, conjointly with a wide chest, and the forelegs set far

apart, to give the horse an appearance of strength and endurance scarcely to be looked for in one of his spirit and fleetness. The high-crested neck, and thick wavy-tail of the Morgan, show much of the character of some races of the Canadian.

The Morgan horse is remarkable for the projection of his ribs from the spine, giving him a wide back and a round barrel; while the Canadian horse is inclined to be flat-sided. They differ much in their style of traveling. The Morgan raises his forefeet but little, while the Canadian horse has a high and labored action of the forefeet. The Canadian horse is certainly very remarkable for the excellence of his feet, but poor feet are of very rare occurrence among Morgan horses.

Mr. Wallace has given the subject some consideration, and I make some quotations from a reference to the family in the second volume of the *Trotting Register*:

It is altogether probable his sire was thoroughbred, and that his dam had some of the blood of Lindsey's Arabian in her veins. At that early period there was a good deal of attention paid to breeding the race horse in the valley of the Connecticut river, and several very fine animals were imported direct to Hartford. This horse Justin Morgan, named after his owner, was very much more blood-like in his appearance and form than his descendants of thirty or forty years later, and in this discussion it is important to note this fact. How often have we seen Morgan horses paraded with manes fully a yard long, and heavy in proportion, and their owners pointing out this feature as a distinguishing characteristic of the purity of their Morgan lineage. Unfortunately for this theory, which was so industriously propagated, Justin Morgan had no such mane; he was quite smooth, and not essentially unlike many blood horses. There is no evidence that he was a trotter of any considerable speed, but was always ready (and generally successful) to run a quarter "for the drinks all round." \* \* \* \* \* Taking the breed altogether, it is fair to say that a great many of them possess the trotting instinct in a marked degree, and some of them in great power, *without the physical conformation that will permit them to go very fast.* The question, "Where does this trotting instinct come from?" is in order at this point. The habits and conditions which made the Canadian a trotter would in time produce the same effect immediately south of the St. Lawrence as well as north of it. But we must look for some other cause, as the breed is not old enough to have become the established creature of surrounding circumstances. In the very first remove from the original horse, we have seen the blood of the dams was unknown; in the second remove the same information is wanting; and in the third the immense crests, long manes and hairy legs of their neighbors in Canada begin to show themselves, and are contemplated with pride as evidence of high Morgan breeding. Connect this with the fact that the country—especially the northern borders—was full of mares of Canadian type and blood, and we not only account for the hair, but for the trot at the same time. I am fully satisfied that the two families are very intimately connected in blood; and while there is more symmetry and style, and blood if

you choose, in the Morgan than the Canadian, the former, probably, inherits from the latter whatever measure of trotting instinct he possesses. Some members of the Morgan family show no marked resemblance to the Canadian, either in their own or in the appearance of their offspring; and when we find trotting instinct in such individuals we must admit we do not know where it came from, unless we conclude the instinct was transmitted without the other marks.

From the above it is important to note that trotting instinct may exist with an *imperfect conformation*, and that in this family, at least, conformation is worthy of some consideration, which is undoubtedly true.

The peculiarities in the type and form of the Morgan must be apparent to any one who is sufficiently familiar with other families to comprehend the difference. I never approach one without finding myself totally at sea as to all points of conformation, as compared with other roadster or trotting families. They have such high mounting crests, short backs, with hips pointing so far forward, and their short plumpy quarters, generally pointing backward so far as to give them the appearance of stout little pullers, but as not having a ready or easy working leverage. They make nice gallopers, as their conformation of back and quarters is admirably calculated to pitch the body forward with both hind legs at once, yet the propelling power with one hind leg at a time, is deficient in the matter of ready and sweeping leverage. But he has the instincts and ways of a roadster in a high degree. This comes from the fact, that some of his ancestors, far anterior to Justin Morgan, had been accustomed to road habits rather than galloping, a fact that would not startle any one among the staid and sober denizens of the hillsides and narrow valleys of New England. From the earliest periods of their history the New Englanders were not a galloping people—road horses were the only ones in use or demand—and the instinct or habit would be acquired and would develop before the roads would be good enough to suggest any demand for speed. As better roads came, there would come a demand for an advance in the higher trotting qualities of the little punchy Morgans. At this time, however, the family had assumed a type and form which was fixed and strongly defined in its character. They would not yield it readily, and it was so far diverse from that of the great trotting families, that it could only be reached and engrafted upon that, or this upon it, by processes exactly adapted to the end desired, or the result would be an inharmonious union. That many such unions took place is altogether probable. Wide

gulfs can not be spanned so readily as narrow ones, and in all their crossings, the right place would not often be secured.

The scope of this chapter only embraces such lines of descent as have succeeded in bringing the Morgan horse to the rank of a first class roadster and trotting horse—either by the process of judicious selections from among their own numbers, of those having elements of adaptation, or that of gradual and successful introduction of other blood elements possessing an adaptation to the double purpose of securing roadster qualities, and of engrafting them on this difficult and illformed stock.

Before proceeding, however, it is important that I should advert to some peculiarities of the original and succeeding members of the family.

That he came from a thoroughbred, and one strong and close to the parent Arab stock, is strongly suggested in his own form and traits of character, and the intensity of his impress as a stallion. That his dam also had some—even much of the same quality, is more than probable, but we can not escape the conclusion, that she also had some other qualities and elements which gave to Morgan a type and character much different in some essentials from the Arab qualities of True Briton and Traveller. That she had also elements of Canadian blood in close union, is most apparent in the rapidity with which such character grew in the Morgan family, and the powerful influence that was wrought in the Morgans at an early period of their history.

An element of road blood derived from Canadian sources, although a small factor in the composition of a horse, coming from True Briton and the so-called Wildair mare, would constitute a germ which would grow and finally assume a character of great positiveness and influence, just as the crosses of racing blood in Pilot Jr. gave him type and character, and caused him to impress himself so powerfully on the produce of racing or thoroughbred mares. This element thus introduced in the first progenitor, became one of the fixed and positive traits in the Morgan horse, and the subsequent generations, if in-bred in the same line of blood, would and did grow and develop the qualities of the Canadian or road stock in modified form. Thus it was that the original clean legs of the Morgan became hairy; his mane and tail, once as light as that of an Arab, became heavy and coarse.

He was at first a galloper and adapted to the purposes of a short distance race horse—the hillsides and crooked valleys of Vermont and

Massachusetts did not call for the qualities of a four-miler, and as his ordinary and principal use and employment was that of a work or road horse, he soon lost his racing qualities and became a roadster. And such was the Morgan horse after the first generation—he was a roadster. But making him a roadster in such short time did not make him a fast trotter. His form was not suited to the purpose, he must undergo many changes before that could be said of him. He could not be crossed at once upon the great trotting families—the Abdallahs, the Bellfounders, and the Duroc-Messengers of the land. He was too far from them.

Before tracing the processes by which great road and trotting qualities have been engrafted upon the Morgan stock, it is proper that I should recur to the immediate progeny of Justin Morgan and consider the several different channels through which his blood has been disseminated, and thus trace the gradual approaches which have been made in transforming the original short punchy Morgan into the elastic and fleet trotter of the present day; and from a careful study of the gradual but progressive advancement, retaining his excellences, his beauty, his docility, his general healthfulness, and enlarging his capacity and range of usefulness, we may learn the lesson how we may still further advance the American roadster and trotter in the employment of the blood of the little and docile but trappy progenitor of the Morgan family.

#### His Sons.

Justin Morgan left several sons, only four of which occupy any prominence among his descendants, viz.: Bulrush, Sherman, Woodbury and Revenge, and the latter is not often referred to in the important lines descended from Morgan.

The important features that characterized the Justin Morgan, his compactness of form, his high and generous spirit, combined with the most perfect gentleness and tractability; his bony, sinewy limbs, his lofty style, and easy but vigorous action, were strongly and strikingly impressed upon his offspring. Not only did his valuable qualities descend unimpaired to the *next* generation, but apparently with little diminution to the second and third; and thus it is that where pains have been taken to select both sires and dams, possessing most of his blood and characteristics, young colts may now be found that closely resemble him in all important respects, except size, in which there has been a decided increase.

Such was the statement made a little more than twenty years ago.

REVENGE was foaled in 1815, and was a dark bay or brown, about fourteen hands and a half high, and weighed about one thousand pounds.

WOODBURY was foaled in 1816, and came from a large mare—larger than the others, and was a dark rich chestnut, fourteen and three-quarters hands high, and weighed a trifle over one thousand pounds. His dam both paced and trotted—had some speed, and was a fast walker.

BULRUSH was foaled in 1812 to 1814. He was a dark bay, his mane and tail were very heavy—his mane came to his knees, and his foretop to the end of his nose, very suggestive of Canadian blood. But this was wholly unlike Justin Morgan. He had a bad temper and more endurance than any of the Morgans. He was about fourteen hands high.

SHERMAN was foaled in 1808 to 1811. His dam was a small highly bred chestnut or brown mare of great quality, as a saddle horse, brought by Mr. John Sherman from Rhode Island. Sherman was a bright chestnut about thirteen and three-quarters hands high, and weighed about nine hundred and twenty-five pounds. As Justin Morgan was noted in his day for ability to draw a heavy log or stone-boat, so Sherman in his day succeeded to the reputation.

The four stallions above named were the best sons of Justin Morgan, and the only ones from which any trace of roadster lineage descended, if indeed it may be said that any such quality descended from any of his immediate progeny. Of these sons, Sherman was undoubtedly the best, as he was descended from the best dam, the only one having any pretensions to superior quality.

As to the speed of the family in the first generation, it is not probable that any son or daughter of Justin Morgan could trot a mile in 3:30, and while the sons of Justin lived until as late a period as 1835, it is not known that any of them ever produced a son or daughter capable of trotting in 2:40. With all their admirable qualities, and the most remarkable power to transmit and retain them, they could make no pretensions to anything like speed or trotting excellence, however clearly defined and well developed may have been their instinct or natural impulse for that gait.

The record now shows that the lineal descendants of Justin Morgan are credited with thirty-three performers in 2:25 or better, and as low a record as 2:16 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and four with records in 2:20 or better. By what process of breeding has this result been attained? While much

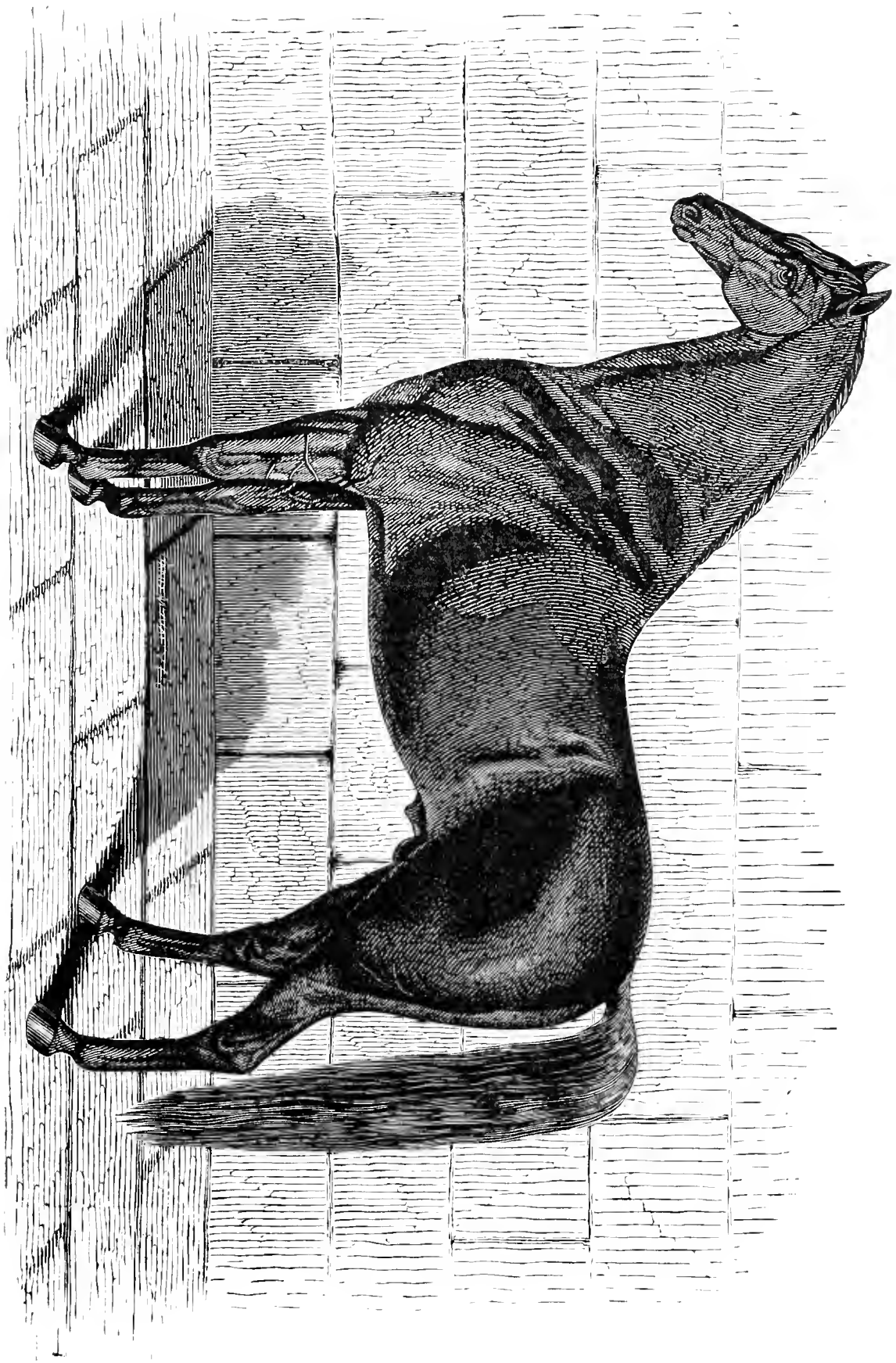


of our general progress in fast time has been the result of training and progressive development, it will not be claimed that by such means the Morgan family has been brought to the position of a first-class trotting family. The analysis of the progressive breeding processes by which this has been achieved affords us an interesting and highly instructive lesson, and forms a fitting conclusion to the pages of this work, devoted to the study of our American Roadsters and Trotting Horses.

#### VERMONT BLACKHAWK.

This was the most distinguished of all the grandsons of Justin Morgan, and it may be said that with him came in the first elements of a departure from the original stock, and toward the real roadster families. He stands as the recognized head of a class of roadsters of acknowledged type, and with far greater claims than Justin Morgan. All the information we have concerning his dam is that she was a "mare raised in New Brunswick, and represented as a half-bred English mare." A gentleman who knew Hill, the owner of Blackhawk, informs me that he always claimed that she was a daughter of Mambrino. In the family descended from Blackhawk I find more that is reliable than in any traditional account of the origin of his dam. The gait and manner of going of the family is clearly marked, and in general well defined; that of the descendants of Ethan Allen differing slightly from the others. They trot with an elastic and smooth gait, with an easy propelling power behind, and less of the trappy action of the front legs than the other Morgans. The resemblance to the gait of the Champions and Abdallahs is about as near as they resemble each other, there being a difference, but it is one of degree, and not very great. They are handsome, rangy and blood-like, and embody the beauty and style of the Morgan family in the highest degree. The gait and manner of going of the Blackhawks of full size, which I have seen and studied with great care, carries to my mind an evidence of kinship with that of the Messenger family; and while Hill's version of the pedigree may have no foundation, the impression on my mind as to the origin of the blood qualities which give the Blackhawks their character is clear and well defined. Accepting the statement that she was raised in New Brunswick, and was represented to be a half-bred English mare, and my solution of the matter is equally clear and in no respect changed. Every lineament of their character points to one source, from which we have in this country so many

VERMONT BLACKHAWK.





representatives, that I am as ready to accept of that version as any other. That her sire or dam came from England is a matter that I can readily accept, in view of the many similar elements which we have in this country, derived from Messenger, Hooton, Trustee, Sarpedon, Contract, Ainderby, Britannia, Mambrina and Melrose—all displaying precisely the same traits, in greater or less degree, and all tracing for the origin of those traits to the Black horse of mixed Lincolnshire and Arab blood, from which have descended the most positive and valuable trotting or roadster elements the world has yet furnished. The blood in this mare may have been diluted and distant, but it was there, and the gait and manner of going of all the descendants to this day declare it. She may not have been a Mambrino or a Messenger; she does not display in her descendants the coarseness, the solid character, which follows that family. She was a blood-like mare, and the Blackhawks are as handsome and blood-like as if the Darley Arabian had been a close and near connection of their famous progenitor.

I have said that the dam of Blackhawk may not have been a Mambrino or any descendant of Messenger. I hardly believe she was. If she was, she was so near to the original stock, that in addition to the more positive traits of the family or blood of which I have spoken, the strong and rough points of character which marked all the early lines close to Messenger, Blackhawk would most likely have displayed in himself, and his immediate offspring, more of the real and positive trotting quality of the Messenger family. It can not be said that he did show this in strong degree. While he was a very handsome trotter, and produced some good trotters, had he stopped there he could not have been accounted a great sire; he had, however, the germ or elements, but not in strong degree. He could trot a mile in 2:42, two miles in 5:43, and he trotted five miles in sixteen minutes. He was a roadster, and had some elements of a trotter. It was beginning in him, and was to develop in his progeny; and it must be said that it did increase very rapidly; but it is also apparent that his trotting blood received reinforcements at every stage, and the success of the family is largely due to that fact.

Blackhawk—or as he is generally called, Vermont Blackhawk—was foaled in 1833; a jet black, a little under fifteen hands high; bred by Wingate Twombly, of Greenland, New Hampshire. When four years old he was purchased by Benjamin Thurston, of Lowell, Mass., for a family driving horse, and kept for that purpose until 1844, when

he was purchased by David Hill, of Bridport, Vt., and was thenceforth called Hill's Blackhawk. He died in 1856. His own symmetry and beauty of form, and even trotting gait, he imparted to his progeny in very remarkable degree. He was in his day a trotting sire of very great popularity.

He has to his credit Ethan Allen, 2:25 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and eleven heats in 2:30 or better; Lancet, 2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and six heats in 2:30 or better, and Belle of Saratoga, 2:29. He also had Blackhawk Maid, two miles in 5:22. This was a long advance on the original trotting capacity of the Morgan family, and was, perhaps, equal to a gain of one minute in speed for a single generation; and the gain in speed was not more decisive or marked, than the advance in type and form or stature from that of the Morgans of the first generation. I have said that Blackhawk, either as a trotter or a sire, was not to be regarded as a great horse; yet if all the credit of his offspring is to be regarded as due to him alone, he was really a great sire. But it will appear that this was a progressive family, and they displayed their really progressive traits in the way in which they gathered reinforcements in each generation. This was their real element of success. From a superior mare—one that was a great roadster and possessed of excellent blood qualities—Blackhawk produced Addison, and he in turn produced Addison Jr., the sire of Clementine, with a record of 2:21, and thirty-one heats in 2:30 or better. From a daughter of Smith's Hambletonian he produced SHERMAN BLACKHAWK, the sire of Panic, 2:28, and Chicago Jack, 2:30, and King Herod, sire of Herod, 2:26 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Foxie V, 2:30, also sire of Rossman Horse, sire of Badger Boy, the sire of Gen. Howard, 2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and also sire of Napoleon, sire of Revenge, that produced Observer with record of 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and twenty-five heats in 2:30 or better. Such was part of the record and standing of Sherman Blackhawk; but his dam was by Smith's Hambletonian, he by Harris' Hambletonian, and his dam by Leonidas, and grandam by imported Bellfounder.

His further advance in good blood, however, was in his son, VERMONT HERO. The dam of Vermont Hero was by Harris' Hambletonian, the Green Mountain sire, a particular account of which was given in Chapter XV. He is the sire of Lady M. with record of 2:30, but his greatest reputation is derived from his son,

#### GEN. KNOX.

This distinguished son of Vermont Hero was foaled in 1855; is a black stallion, about fifteen hands high, but on his withers rises per-

haps two inches higher; very compactly built; has a short thigh, only 20 inches in length, and trots very close and even behind; he also has a short forearm; limbs heavy and strong. His dam was by Smith's Hambletonian, son of Harris' Hambletonian, his grandam by Harris' Hambletonian. Thus it will appear that Gen. Knox runs to Harris' Hambletonian four times, to Smith's Hambletonian twice, and to imported Bellfounder twice, once to Blackhawk, once to Justin Morgan and Sherman. He can scarcely be called a Morgan, and has certainly none of the characteristics of the family. He is a coarse looking horse, having the appearance of a cross between the Messenger and the Canadian, except that the mane and tail do not indicate the peculiar coarseness of the Canadian. He has a ewe neck, and no crest, or rather, as has been said by one writer, the crest is on the under side of it; his jawl is deep and very heavy. His appearance does not speak out clearly of the excellences he contains. He has none of the beauty and style which characterized the Morgans of the early day, and is far removed from the handsome Blackhawks. He is as strong in the blood of Messenger, all coming through Harris' Hambletonian, as any horse in America.

Gen. Knox is owned by H. N. Smith, Esq., at the Fashion Stud Farm, Trenton, New Jersey, and has spent nearly all of his days prior to 1872 in the State of Maine. A lucky State to have held one such sire, for he has been a most remarkable one. He should not be called a Morgan, and should stand to-day to the credit of the Green Mountain sire, Harris' Hambletonian, for such in reality he is, and we have produced no stallion in our day which can surpass him. He lived so far off down East and in such an obscure place that we scarcely heard of him until about the time he left that State. That his true status, as a sire, may be set forth in these pages, I avail myself of a very intelligent article in *Wallace's Monthly*, from a writer whom I have not the pleasure of knowing, and make the following extract:

Knox is a well-bred horse, and was always a good, square, level-headed trotter. At sixteen years of age, in 1871, he was bought by Mr. Smith, through Mr. Nodine, as a trotter, he having no idea then of breeding him. Nodine took him to Prospect Park in July, just before starting for Buffalo, where he was entered in the 2:30 class. After being there a short time, Mr. Smith was sent for to see him take a mile and repeat. He could not go, so sent James B. Bach and Mr. Salters to time him. The first mile was trotted in 2:25½, repeated with perfect ease in 2:24. He then went to Buffalo, where the association gave him the best stall at the track, a new one. He slipped on the fresh planking, wrenching one of his forward legs, and was unable to start in

the race. In ten days he was well again, and received some further training. In 1872 he stood in Westchester county. It was not until 1873 that he went to Fashion Farm.

Let us examine the performances of his offspring in the Pine Tree State, and see what we should expect of General Washington and his two-year-old sister, Rose Thorn; what of the three-year-old colt out of Tida (by Ethan Allen, dam by Abdallah); what of the superb two-year-old colt out of the dam of Music.

2:30	{	Lady Maud... 2:18 $\frac{1}{4}$	} 2:20	Lexington .....	2:36 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Camors. .... 2:19 $\frac{3}{4}$		Lady Knox (Cook's) .....	2:37
		Gilbreth Knox..... 2:26 $\frac{3}{4}$		Brackett's (Knox Jr.) .....	2:37
		Plato..... 2:27 $\frac{1}{2}$		Gen. Sherman .....	2:37 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Harry Spanker..... 2:30		Waldo Chief .....	2:38
		Gen. Lightfoot .....	2:31	Knox Jr.....	2:38
		Knox Boy.....	2:31 $\frac{1}{2}$	Lady Knox (Springer's).....	2:38 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Grey Knox (Green's).....	2:31 $\frac{1}{2}$	Palmer Knox.....	2:38 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Phil Sheridan .....	2:31 $\frac{3}{4}$	Black Sultan.....	2:40 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Messenger Knox.....	2:31 $\frac{3}{4}$	Howe's Bismarck .....	2:40 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Maine Slasher.....	2:32	Jules Jurgensen .....	2:41 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Dr. Franklin.....	2:34	Christine (Capron's) .....	2:42
		Miss Butterball.....	2:35	Millinocket .....	2:42 $\frac{3}{4}$
		Cora T.....	2:35	Geo. Knox .....	2:43
		Bogus Boy .....	2:35 $\frac{1}{2}$	Charcoal .....	2:44 $\frac{1}{4}$
		Honest Tom.....	2:36	Tom Lang .....	2:45
		Christine.....	2:36 $\frac{1}{2}$	Uncle Shube .....	2:45
		Emperor William.....	3:36	Lambert Knox .....	2:46
		Barbara Knox.....	2:36	Riverton Knox .....	2:55

Here are thirty-eight colts of a single horse, with fast records. Lady Maud's 2:18 $\frac{1}{4}$  is astonishing, but not so remarkable as her own 2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$  at five years of age.

Nor is this all. His sons can add the following to the laurels due their sire:

Charley R.....	2:27	}	By Gilbreth Knox, 2:26 $\frac{3}{4}$ .
Lothair.....	2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Myra Shaw.....	2:31		
Gilbreth Maid .....	2:38		
Honest John .....	2:40		
Silver Eye .....	2:40		
Eastern Queen .....	2:42 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Becky Sharp.....	2:45	}	By General Lightfoot.
Air.....	2:31		
Nellie Walton .....	2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Fred Logan.....	2:34	}	By Jules Jurgensen.
John S. Heald.....	2:27 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Plymouth Rock.....	2:32	}	By Whalebone Knox. By Black Sultan.
Little Fred .....	2:35		
R. E. Lee .....	2:36		
Thurflow Knox.....	2:48		

By Phil Sheridan, 2:31 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

This is the stud record, in part, of a horse who stood in a little village of Maine, obscure, unheralded; and everything he has shown has been in the face of such disadvantages as would have covered a horse of less merit, so no one would ever have heard of him. He has succeeded because of intrinsic worth, and in spite of his surroundings.

All General Knox lacks is, high form and "quality." If "handsome is that handsome does," he lacks nothing at all. In view of the facts in the case, I am certain no one can deny he is one of the most remarkable animals that ever lived—a horse among a thousand.

General Knox has one son which will be watched with interest. He is the son of the renowned Lady Thorn, foaled February 22, 1874, and was named, in honor of the day,

## GENERAL WASHINGTON.

I have already referred to him, as fully as I have data to guide me, in my sketch of Lady Thorn. I regret that I can not in this place present the portrait of the young stallion. The success of Sherman Blackhawk illustrates the progressive advance in the Morgan family in the way of gradual introduction of the blood of the great trotting families; and it is shown that they receive these advances kindly, and at the same time retain much of their own excellences of temper, constitution and beauty.

COTTRILL MORGAN was by Vermont Blackhawk; dam said to be a three-quarter English mare that could trot in three minutes. He was regarded as one of the best of the family. He produced Bell Morgan, the sire of Lady Turpin, with record of 2:23, and eight heats in 2:30 or better.

BLACK FLYING CLOUD was also a son of Vermont Blackhawk, and was the sire of Badger Girl, with record of 2:22½, and twenty-five heats in 2:30 or better.

Vermont Blackhawk was also sire of BLACKHAWK HERO—sire of Grey Mack—2:25¼, and nine heats in 2:30 or better.

Also of Challenge, the sire of Doty, 2:28½, and six heats in 2:30.

He was also the sire of Jackson's Flying Cloud, the sire of Star of the West, 2:26½, and Trojan, sire of Ella Wright, 2:24¾, and nine heats in 2:30. Trojan's dam was by Abdallah, and the dam of this Flying Cloud was by Andrew Jackson.

Vermont Blackhawk was also the sire of Benedict's Pathfinder, dam by Walkins' Highlander, and he produced Buel's Pathfinder, the sire of Frank, with record of 2:20, and fifteen heats in 2:30 or better.

Vermont Blackhawk is also credited as the sire of the Hemingway



Horse, the sire of Hampshire Boy; the dam of the latter said to have been a daughter of Napoleon, by Young Mambrino, son of Chancellor, son of Mambrino; another instance of the progressive advancement of the Morgan in the channel of trotting blood, and evidenced in this case by Hampshire Boy being sire of Susey, with record of 2:21, and forty-four heats in 2:30 or better.

The highest advance, however, made by Vermont Blackhawk toward founding a family of trotting horses was in having produced

ETHAN ALLEN.

Ethan was a bay stallion, bred by J. W. Holcomb, Ticonderoga, New York, and was foaled in 1849; by Vermont Blackhawk; dam a small, grey mare, whose pedigree has never been ascertained, but whose blood qualities, in connection with the qualities of her son and other produce, go to indicate that she was a highly bred mare, strong in the blood of Messenger. The opinion has been advanced by Mr. Wallace—but on what information I do not know—that this mare was by the Freeman Horse, a son of Ogden's Messenger; but the real facts can not be ascertained, and probably will never be known; and we are limited to this fact, which must be accepted and taken as assured by all who have studied the blood traits of our American trotting families, that she was just such in every point and trait, as a granddaughter or great granddaughter of imported Messenger; and there is hardly room to doubt that such was her parentage.

Like all the other maternals in this fortunate family of successful sons—whose chief success in each case seems to have been achieved in coming from a mare of superior blood—this mare seems to have had the controlling share in the formation of the character of her son and of his own descendants. She also bore a full brother to Ethan Allen, called Red Leg, and a full sister, called Blackhawk Maid, and these were both fast. She also produced a filly by another stallion, which was a remarkable trotter for its age, but was killed when four years old. This mare was a small, flea-bitten grey mare—just such as in the State of Vermont and the eastern edge of New York were at that time, and for a long time before and since, called Messengers. All her produce were trotters, and their trotting action very perfect. That of Ethan Allen has never been excelled. With all her excellent qualities, however, and they were many and great, she was an unsound mare, and she transmitted to Ethan spavined hocks, and gave him also the ability to transmit this taint and deep-

seated infirmity to many of his produce. It is even said that he was foaled with spavins. Be this as it may, it is certain that all his great prowess as a trotter was maintained in spite of this serious disadvantage, and that it has rendered many of his offspring of little value. Their feet and legs are not up to the early Morgan standard of superiority.

Mr. Leonard T. Tucker, a gentleman of the State of Vermont, and for many years the owner of the stallion Draco, and whose life has been passed in great part among the Morgan horses, at one time wrote a letter, from which I make an extract:

The statement that Ethan Allen is, anatomically, very evenly balanced, is a mistake. Ethan is quite too light in the hindquarters for the other portions of his body; not glaringly so, but plainly so. In his hind limbs he is extremely faulty. The hock joints being narrow and not strongly capped, the upper end of the cannon-bone being too narrow, and the joint very crooked, renders them extremely liable to become curbed, as they have been two or three times badly, but have been well treated in the first stages of the strain, and I presume do not show. The pastern joints of the hind limbs are too long and delicate, not larger than ought to be on a well balanced horse of 700 lbs. It is this natural weakness in Ethan that compels him to "quit" at his fastest gait, when asked to carry even himself much over half a mile. Having been with this horse much of the time during three of his best trotting seasons, I speak from absolute knowledge, and only wish to state the facts.

That Ethan Allen has the most perfect trotting gait ever seen, all admit who know him. He works with the least waste of motion. His stride is as precise as the stroke of a pendulum, and so true does he carry his body, so graceful his head and neck, and animated so as to "light up all over," that he presents a most perfect "sylph-like form of elegance." Though he can not carry weight and last, yet it is extremely doubtful if there has yet lived a more speedy horse. At the stud Ethan may be safely used when the dam can fortify his weak points as did the pacer Pocahontas, and the dams of Honest Allen and the Porter colt.

The "trotting strains" of the Morgan family are not to be found. They do not exist. The original Morgan horse, called Justin Morgan, was half or more thoroughbred; had a short nervous action; was a spirited elegant saddle horse, but had no trotting speed. Of the six stallions saved from him, none showed fast trotting. Of the grandsons only one, and that was Hill's Blackhawk. This latter horse was by Sherman Morgan; the best roadster left by Justin. It is claimed by those who knew the dam of Sherman, that she was a mare of uncommon endurance on the road, but not fast. It is everywhere admitted where she was known, that the dam of Blackhawk was speedy. Ethan Allen was one-eighth Morgan, and no speed in any ancestor on the Morgan side. Then it must have been that he inherited fast trotting in the seven-eighths instead of the one-eighth, where there was none, for it is certain

that Ethan's dam was fast. The "trotting strain" came from another quarter than the Morgans. The same is true of all the trotters from Hill's Blackhawk.

From this, however, it must not be inferred that Ethen Allen had not the leverage conformation of a perfect trotter, as nearly as such form has been possessed by any. His limbs were deficient, but the relative length of the same has been pronounced by Mr. S. T. Harris, a very able writer and one who knew the horse from close study, to be on the most perfect model for a great trotter. His perfection of trotting action could not have been displayed without machinery of the most exact proportions, although they may have been utterly unsound and deficient in other respects. His trotting action will ever be presented as the most perfect witnessed on any of our trotting courses.

Ethan Allen acquired great reputation for trotting with a running mate, and in this way rigged was matched against Dexter, and made a memorable race—making the mile in 2:15, which at that time was several seconds faster than had ever been made by any trotting horse. His record, unaided by a running mate, is 2:25 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and he has eleven heats in 2:30 or better; but he is the hero of several victories with a running mate, a favorite achievement with him. So perfect was his trotting action that it may be said he could trot as fast as any other horse could pull him along.

He was a small horse, and he bred many very small ones, and many unsound ones, but with all this lack of stature and their imperfections, he may be regarded as the head of a great family of fast trotters; for such they are, if they have any capacity or speed whatever—the serious drawback to the family in many cases being a lack of ability to endure training. This is a defect that nothing short of the most judicious selections can obviate.

His blood was so far reinforced with that of Messenger as to cause him to cross with success with the in-bred and positive mares of Messenger blood. He has to his credit Billy Barr, 2:23 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and sixteen heats; Hotspur, 2:24, and forty-two heats; Fanny Allen, 2:28 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Fanny Lee, 2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Pocahontas, 2:26 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; and Warwick, 2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

His son, Bacon's Ethan Allen, has Lew Ives, 2:28; De Long's Ethan Allen has Lucca, 2:30; Dixon's Ethan Allen—dam by Abdallah—has Sensation, 2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and forty-five heats; Holabird's Ethan Allen has Laura Williams, 2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and Charley Mac, 2:25, and fifteen heats; Holland's Ethan Allen has Barney Kelley, 2:26, and thirty-

seven heats; and Ethan Allen Jr. has Prince Allen, 2:27, and Allen, 2:28 $\frac{1}{4}$ . The absurdity of all this nomenclature needs no comment—the only thing to dim the celebrity of the family.

In addition to the foregoing, American Ethan, another son, has George H. Mitchell, 2:26; Favorite, 2:30; Fanny Raymond, 2:30.

Honest Allen, another son, has Prince Allen, 2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Alton Boy, 2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Shakespeare, 2:30; and still another—the names having been exhausted—called Son of Ethan Allen, has to his credit, Clifton Boy, 2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Lizzie Kellar, 2:30; Nira Belle, 2:29; and Zephyr, 2:30.

His greatest son, however, is

## DANIEL LAMBERT.

This is one of the most distinguished of living stallions. He was foaled in 1858, and was owned for many years by Edward Bates, Esq., of Boston, lately deceased, and is yet held by the executors of that gentleman. The dam of Lambert was Fanny Cook, and she must be regarded as a mare of extraordinary merit, and her blood was such as should have guaranteed great merit. She was a daughter of Abdallah, and her dam is asserted to have been a daughter of Stockholm's American Star, son of Duroc, from a daughter of Messenger. This of itself, going no further, would make her a mare of great blood excellence; but we are further assured that the grandam of Fanny Cook was a Red Bird mare, and it is claimed that she was daughter of the horse Red Bird, by Bishop's Hambletonian, dam by Red Bird, a thoroughbred, which was brought into Eastern New York at a very early period. This is now regarded as the authentic pedigree of Fanny Cook, the dam of Daniel Lambert, and so many other excellent horses.

Fanny Cook was foaled in 1854, and raised fourteen foals, six of which were by Ethan Allen—the majority of them being chestnuts in color. Such is the color of Daniel Lambert; he has a white snip on his nose and one hind foot white. He has all the lofty carriage, the fine form and the matchless style of his sire and his grandsire, Vermont Blackhawk, in perfection. He retains much of the Morgan, and yet has engrafted upon it the real qualities of the Messenger as they were exhibited in Abdallah, except in his rough and homely exterior. He seems to be the one stallion that combines Abdallah's great trotting, and I may also say, his rich breeding qualities, with all the beauty and symmetry of Blackhawk. Still more, so far as it has yet appeared, the infirmities inherited from the dam of Ethan Allen have been

overcome and entirely eliminated by the marvelous healthfulness of the Blackhawk and Abdallah blood. Lambert is believed to exhibit no trace of these defects, and that makes him complete. Daniel Lambert is also a trotting stallion of great superiority. He was himself a good trotter, although trained but little. As a three-year-old he trotted in 2:41. As a four-year-old he received a few mares, but was not put into the stud until he was eight years old, and his colts from his early service commenced displaying such superiority as to call for his services, and demonstrate that he was to assume the position of one of the greatest stallions this country has produced. Of the small number gotten before he was five years old, one was Abraham, that now appears also to be a stallion of great excellence; Jubilee Lambert, record of 2:25; Nonesuch, 2:25; and Col. Moulton, 2:28½—the two latter full trotters; and Fanny Lambert, 2:32, in a two-mile race. The early promise of the above colts fixed the popular estimate on the value of Daniel Lambert as a sire. His greatest trotter yet produced is Comee, record of 2:19¼, and seventy-one heats in 2:30 or better. I append a list showing the status of his family at present:

## WITHIN 2:30.

	HEATS.	TIME.	
Comee .....	71	2:19¼.	
Wild Lilly, five years old.....	13	2:24.	
Jubilee Lambert.....	2	2:25.	
Nonesuch .....	15	2:25.	
Kitty Cook, by Abraham, son of Lambert..	4	2:26.	
Flora Belle.....		2:27½,	(wagon 2:35).
Aristos .....	3	2:27¾.	
Lady Foxie.....	15	2:28.	
Col. Moulton.....	1	2:28½.	
Arnold.....	1	2:29.	
Joe S.....	1	2:30.	

## WITHIN 2:40.

Lookout .....	2:32,	(by Abraham).
Fanny Lambert.....	2:32.	
Delightful .....	2:33.	
Champlain .....	2:37,	(by Abraham).
John Lambert.....	2:37.	
Goldfinder.....	2:37½,	(by John L).

His son Aristos is also a very well bred horse and a great trotter, having, in his first season on the track as a six-year-old, made a record of 2:27¾, and never lost a heat.

Daniel Lambert is certainly a horse of brilliant reputation and extraordinary superiority. I dismiss him in the belief that he will leave a reputation unsurpassed by any stallion that America has yet produced; and while I have not his portrait to adorn these pages, his brilliant career in the stud will furnish adornment for many pages of future turf history.

## THE MORRILLS.

The first Morrill was foaled about 1840. He was a black stallion; was by the Jennison Horse, son of Young Bulrush, by Bulrush. His dam was by Farrington Horse, he by Vance Horse, a son of imported Messenger; and just there this family obtained their elements of the great trotting horse. He was a large horse, weighing over twelve hundred pounds. He produced one trotter, Mountain Maid, with record of 2:27 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and eleven heats in 2:30 or better. Morrill was also sire of Metacomet, the sire of Winthrop Morrill Jr., with record of 2:27, and of Mountain Chief, the sire of Haviland, 2:29 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

## YOUNG MORRILL.

This was a brown horse, and was foaled in 1848. He was by old Morrill, and his dam was by Sherman. He trotted in 2:30, and was sire of Draco, 2:30, and of the distinguished stallion, Fearnought, with record of 2:23 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and four heats in 2:30; and Draco was sire of Draco Prince, with record of 2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and sixteen heats in 2:30 or better.

## WINTHROP MORRILL.

This is one of the most successful stallions of the Morgan family, and the only one that can be claimed to be a real Morgan. He was foaled 1855, is a bay horse, by Young Morrill, his dam by the Huckins Horse, son of Royal Morgan, called also Morgan Rattler; his next dam by Morgan Eagle, and the next by Bulrush. He has two crosses of Messenger, one of Duroc; the one line to the Vance Horse through old Morrill, and the dam of Morgan Eagle being by Callender, son of American Eclipse. But it is a matter of frequent occurrence that one or two crosses of Messenger blood in connection with genuine road elements, will after awhile develop and produce a trotter and a trotting sire.

Such was the case with Rhode Island, and such undoubtedly was the case with Golddust. The blood of Messenger received such modification by the road elements found in these Morgan strains as to give it the true character of trotting blood, and to eliminate all

racing inclination from it. The germ once planted would come out, and the result in Winthrop Morrill is a trotting sire of remarkable success. He stands side by side with Knox and Lambert, but is more nearly a Morgan than either of them.

Mr. Levi S. Gould, of Boston, whose name appears in an early part of this work, has furnished me from his own pen, the following account of this stallion:

WINTHROP MORRILL.—Bright bay horse, with dark points, star, off hind ankle white; full mane and tail; height, about  $15\frac{1}{2}$  hands; weight, 1,000 pounds; head, after the Morgan type, clean and intelligent; neck, thin, long, blood-like, and carried in good style. Shoulders sloping and strong; chest deep; back stout and beautiful in contour from withers to haunches; barrel, round and well ribbed back; tail finely set on and well carried; limbs rather light in bone, but well muscled; hind pasterns very straight; upper bone of the forearm let down low to the knee; cannon-bone short; feet blue, tough and excellent. Foaled, 1856.

Placed in training when from three to four years old, he developed wonderful speed as a trotter, and was entered in a race at Providence, R. I. Too severe work for a youngster caused him to suddenly shift from a trot to a pace. Repeated attempts failing to correct the evil he was traded to a jockey and went to Maine, where he passed from one to another at a mere pittance in price, finally bringing up in a peddler's cart. While in this menial capacity, he sired the chestnut gelding Fleetwood, record, 2:29. Purchased by Geo. C. Goodale, then of Winthrop, Me., for ninety dollars, he was used for general farm work for a season and finally sold to Messrs. Charles G. Jackson and Jos. G. Rounds, and went into the stud at Winthrop. In Mr. Goodale's possession he was driven a carefully measured mile on Winthrop pond, two men to a sleigh, without a break, in 2:32, the last quarter in the remarkable time of 33 seconds or a 2:12 gait, and was not up to his speed until the half mile was passed. He paced at that time, but next season shifted over, and has been a square trotter since. His success in the stud, always with common hard-worked farmer's mares (Gen. Knox and Drew always taking the best) is a matter of public record. At the close of the season of 1877 he stood number five on the list of sires of horses trotting in 2:30 or better. Said list including *all* which have trotted in that time since the first record in this country, viz: Hambletonian, 27 representatives; Volunteer, 16 representatives; Blue Bull, 10 representatives; Daniel Lambert, 9 representatives; Winthrop Morrill, 7 representatives.

His get are uniformly of great courage, excellent trotting action, and have an appearance of higher breeding than would be expected from his ancestry.

Winthrop Morrill was bred by Rodway Bradford, of Barre, Vermont, and was recently owned by the late Mr. T. B. Williams, of Boston. He is now owned at Hartland, in the State of Maine. His record stands at present as follows:

Honest Harry, 2:22½, and fifty heats in 2:30 or better; Uncle Abe, 2:27; Ed Getchell, 2:27; Ben Morrill, at four years old, 2:32¾, at six, 2:28; Fleetwood, 2:29; Modoc, 2:29; Baby Boy, 2:29; Sweet Briar, 2:32½; Sam Curtis, 2:28; Belle Morrill, 2:34; Charley Morrill, 2:33; Letrenoux's Purity, 2:37½; W. Morrill, Mich., 2:37; Baby Girl, 2:45; Louis Surette, 2:45; Yellow Dog, 2:42; Lady Morrill, 2:43; Little Fraud, 2:43½; Lady Mansfield, 2:45; J. G. Morrill, 2:50, half, 1:21, at three years old.

His record and success shows the wonderful progress made in the Morgan family by the introduction of a small element of real trotting blood. This stallion will afford an excellent cross to reunite with the other Morgan strains in Daniel Lambert and Gen. Knox, although the Morgan blood of the latter horse will be hard to find and can scarcely be recognized.

#### HALE'S GREEN MOUNTAIN MORGAN.

Another branch of the Morgan family deserving of notice, as having made progress in the development of trotting excellence by means of alliances with other good lines of blood, are the various scions tracing through Hale's Green Mountain Morgan. This latter horse was foaled in 1834, and was a chestnut horse by Gifford Morgan, son of Woodbury—and his dam was by Woodbury. Gifford, his sire, has been celebrated even among the Morgans for his beauty and unapproachable style.

He is credited as being the sire of Eastman Morgan, the sire of Little Fred, with a record of 2:20, and forty-one heats in 2:30 or better. I have an impression that it will be found that Eastman Morgan was by a son of Hale's Green Mountain Morgan. The dam of Little Fred was by Simpson's Blackbird, a highly bred horse—almost a thoroughbred—but a trotter.

Hale's Morgan was also the sire of MORGAN EAGLE, the sire of Lady Sutton, with record of 2:30. The dam of Morgan Eagle was by Callender, a son of American Eclipse, grandam by a son of Sherman, and he showed in his own produce and those that came after him the advance he had made in breeding quality.

#### MAGNA CHARTA.

This highly successful stallion in himself and his progeny proves the readiness of the Morgan stock to receive and appropriate the good qualities of other highly bred racing and trotting blood. He was by



Morgan Eagle, and his dam was by Grey Eagle. He has been claimed to be the sire of the trotter Henry, another whose dam was a highly bred mare of unknown pedigree, but of both racing and trotting excellence. Henry has been classed as the son of another Morgan stallion, but the claim rests upon the statement of the owner of the rival stallion, and is contrary to the explicit and positive statement of the breeder of Henry and who was also the owner of his dam. In view of these facts, and that the rival stallion has no other claims to distinction, I think it an effort to give him reputation at the expense of Magna Charta; and I credit him with Henry, 2:20 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and twenty-three heats in 2:30 or better, and as corroborative evidence of his claim, he also has Hannah D., 2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and thirty-one heats in 2:30 or better; Molly, 2:27, and Young Magna, 2:29.

I believe it is a rule recognized by good authority, in case of ill-gotten gains, to take from him the little that he hath and give unto him that also has much.

#### TAGGART'S ABDALLAH.

This is another of those lines of Morgan blood which have been brought to the rank of roadsters and trotting horses by union with genuine trotting blood. In this instance, the original stock has received a strong infusion both from Messenger and from Trustee. Taggart's Abdallah was foaled in 1859. He was by Farmer's Beauty, dam Lady Mack by Abdallah, grandam by imp. Trustee.

Farmer's Beauty was by Gifford Morgan, son of Woodbury, and his dam was a mare generally credited to the Freeman Horse, son of Ogden's Messenger. This is about as good a pedigree for a roadster or trotting sire as could be found within the list of Morgans.

The dam of Taggart's Abdallah was bred in New Jersey by Dr. Conover, and was a mare of great superiority in her day. Her rare combination of blood, the richest anywhere to be found, would of itself make her a mare of matchless worth. She should have bred a trotter or a trotting sire from any good roadster stallion.

This horse was bred and is owned by D. M. Taggart, of Goffstown, New Hampshire, and is described as a bright bay horse, fifteen hands three inches high, clean and blood-like, and of excellent disposition. At the New England Fair, at Manchester, in 1870, he is credited with having trotted a mile in 2:28, and repeated a half in 1:12 $\frac{1}{2}$ —not, however, a record performance.

He has to his credit Ned Wallace, with record of 2:25, and eighteen heats in 2:30 or better, and Parkis' Abdallah, 2:26 $\frac{3}{4}$ , and seven heats in 2:30 or better.

The form and blood composition of this horse suggest that he ought to be a valuable roadster stallion, and that in all probability many lines from him may yet prove of great excellence when crossed with other well bred strains. He is certainly a horse deserving of favorable notice.

## GOLDDUST.

This stallion and his claim to distinction find a proper place at the close of these chapters. He was a stallion of undoubted merit, but one to which I have hitherto made few references, and my apparent neglect was not the result of oversight or a lack of appreciation, but arose from the fact that I always found his name enveloped in an atmosphere which I am not in the habit of penetrating.

I am not acquainted with the owner or manager of the horse, his peculiar method of advancing the claims of the horse to distinction being such as to debar me from the privilege of making his acquaintance. I never saw Golddust, but have seen many of his progeny, and they were a family of trotters. Their record has been a really brilliant one. Golddust died in 1871 or 1872, and he is credited with Lucille Golddust, with record of 2:16 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and thirty-seven heats in 2:30 or better; Fleety Golddust, 2:20, and twelve heats in 2:30 or better; and Rolla Golddust, 2:25, and four heats in 2:30 or better.

But the interesting question at once arises, What was Golddust? Whence did he come? The literature on that subject has been mainly furnished by his owner, and it was of a character to add to the mystery—and great seemed to be the mystery. From the oft-repeated statements we gathered from time to time that he was not a Messenger—had no Messenger blood—was a breed to and by himself. But from whom and what did he come? Was Golddust in reality the ancient sire that came down the mountain with the early *Navigator*? Did he spring from the horse that was seen swimming in mid-ocean? I believe the latter was a pacer. Was he descended from the sire that jumped out of the sloop and swam ashore, or had he any sire? On all of these points we find it difficult to obtain satisfactory information from his owner.

Mr. Wallace, in his second volume of the *Trotting Register*, after paying his respects to this sort of horse heraldry in very proper terms, says:

Instead of there being any mystery or anything unusual in the origin of this horse Golddust, he is simply the fortunate result of a cross between an in-bred Morgan horse and a high bred, perhaps thoroughbred, mare of running blood. He was of good size and fine style, combining in his form most happily many of the best points of each type. In his mental organization, the qualities of his sire, beyond doubt, largely predominated, impressing upon him a good degree of trotting instinct, which, in his turn, he has transmitted to his progeny.

Not being willing to accept of the probabilities of the horse having originated in any of the foregoing mysterious ways, I have given the subject some consideration; and find myself also unable to accept of the suggestion made by Mr. Wallace, that Golddust was "simply the fortunate result of a cross between an in-bred Morgan horse and a high bred, perhaps thoroughbred, mare of running blood." This is totally at war with the often-advanced proposition of the learned editor, that there must have been an inheritance resting in trotting blood. The success of Golddust as a sire asserts that he had this quality by inheritance. He transmits so much of it, and his trotters have a gait so uniform and so much like real trotters, as to repel the idea that it could have come from a Morgan who did not have it, or from his union with a mare of racing blood where it did not exist.

Two sources so utterly destitute could not have transmitted the trotting qualities in such abundance. We must look for some other explanation. A careful study of the gait and way of going of such of the Golddusts as have come under my observation, has revealed to me the fact that they were strong and positive in their way of going, very demonstrative and much alike in this respect, and that they all display more action than any of the other real trotters of the Morgan family—totally unlike any of the Blackhawks in particular. The latter were an easy going family—not violent or demonstrative—some others made a great ado with their front feet, but did not display much gait behind; but the Golddusts show action all over, and they have a vigorous and demonstrative propelling power in their quarters and thighs. They are not second rate trotters by any means.

It is finally ascertained and agreed, on all sides of the question, that Golddust had a sire, and that his name was Vermont Morgan; and from recent statements given to the public it appears that this Vermont Morgan was brought to Madison county, Illinois, in 1849, by Mr. J. Y. Sawyer; that Mr. Sawyer purchased him in the fall of 1848 when two years old, of his breeder, Mr. Lockwood, of Springfield, Ver-

mont; that he was by the Barnard Morgan, and his dam was known as the Moses F. Chase mare; that she was a bay mare fifteen hands high. She was called a Sherman Morgan, but this amounts to nothing, for such would have been likely to have been the case in the absence of any known pedigree, as it was fashionable in Vermont as late as that day to claim all the Morgan blood possible in any and every animal of excellence. She was a good roadster but of unknown blood.

The dam of Barnard Morgan was a highly bred mare, sixteen hands high, and she it would seem gave the Barnard Morgan his size of fifteen hands and three-quarters in height, and doubtless much of the excellence for which he was distinguished. After Mr. Sawyer had brought the colt Vermont Morgan to Illinois, he found that he had become or was sterile—perfectly impotent, which sometimes occurs with a young stallion from change of climate and location. Mr. Sawyer, thereupon, in 1855, brought out from Vermont the Barnard Morgan and kept him near Alton, Illinois, until about 1872, the time of his death. He was a stallion of great excellence, and became very popular in that part of Illinois.

In 1857 he was exhibited at St. Louis with twenty-six of his colts, and the judges covered him, as Mr. Sawyer says, from end to end with blue ribbons.

Barnard Morgan took the first premium of the Madison County Fair in 1855 and 1856, as best stallion for roadsters. He has left much stock in that part of Illinois and other adjacent parts of Missouri, all noted for great excellence as road horses and many of them quite speedy, and what is more, their gait and way of going is much unlike the other Morgan families and much like that of the Golddusts. Mr. Sawyer sold Vermont Morgan to the breeder and owner of Golddust, who succeeded in restoring his virility and raised several colts from him—Golddust among the number.

We are informed that the Barnard Morgan was a son of Gifford son of Woodbury, and was a bay horse fifteen hands and three-quarters in height, and weighed about 1,150 pounds, and was a superior trotter. Gifford was undoubtedly one of the best of the Morgans of his or any other period. He was the most popular horse of the Morgan family, and left the largest progeny of any horse this country has produced unless it be Hambletonian. It is stated that he produced about thirteen hundred foals. There were so many lines of trotting blood accessible in Vermont in the localities from which these horses Gifford and Barnard Morgan and Vermont Morgan came, that it is

easy to find a possible source of trotting blood which would have compensated for any deficiency in the original Morgan family. Some such there must have been, as it is an absolute certainty that a sire with no more true trotting blood than Justin Morgan or Woodbury, his son, could never have transmitted to the son of such a mare as the dam of Golddust, trotting qualities so marked and impressive as have been exhibited by this stallion.

The indications in the anatomy and the manner of going of the Golddust family indicate so very clearly to my mind the possible origin of their trotting blood in a Duroc-Messenger, that I have been strongly inclined to the belief that the dam of Vermont Morgan or of Barnard Morgan may have been a daughter of Cock of the Rock, whose stay in Vergennes, Addison county, Vt., from 1820 to 1829, left so many mares in that State whose blood and trotting qualities enter into so large a list of the Morgans and other roadster stallions of that State as to render it an easy task to solve the mystery, if there be any mystery, in the trotting instinct and capacity of the Golddust family.

The blood of Bishop's Hambletonian is scarcely found in the Morgans as frequently as that of Cock of the Rock. A daughter of the latter was the dam of Morgan Cock of the Rock, another was dam of Blackhawk Champion, another was dam of Lone Star, and another was dam of Robin—all Morgan stallions, and still another was dam of the Wiley Colt, also called Vermont Morgan, a horse which has by many been confounded with this other Vermont Morgan, the sire of Golddust. Mr. Murray, Dr. Harvey, and many of the current journals of the country, credit Golddust to this Wiley Colt, but in this they are in error. His sire was the son of Barnard Morgan, son of Gifford, as I have already stated; but the Golddust family, in their conformation and way of going, supply evidence which indicates to my mind their undoubted origin in one of these daughters of Cock of the Rock. Their gait is nothing like that of the Vermont Hambletonians. Phil Sheridan, son of Creeper, a Morgan horse, was from a grey mare of that Vermont Messenger blood, and in his gait he very closely resembles the stallions Cuyler and Joe Brown; but the Golddusts and some of the produce of Blackhawk Champion, which I have seen, trot as though they came from one family, not, however, like the Blackhawks. Their gait has more stifle, and more of the so-called hock-action, a more powerful display in the stifles and rear propellers; and after a close study of several members of the family, all displaying

traits very similar, in the absence of any positive and absolutely authentic testimony on the subject, I shall reject all mystery in the origin of their trotting qualities, and rest in the belief that if the true pedigree is ever ascertained it will trace to Cock of the Rock, son of Duroc, out of Romp, by imported Messenger. The indications of that blood are so unmistakable to my mind that I should not experience any concern for a different or a better solution of the whole supposed mystery.

Those who have seen the trotting action of the progeny of Champion Blackhawk, owned in Hamilton county, Ohio, can not have failed to notice two facts: first, that the action of the family is different from the other Blackhawks, and second, that it is almost identical with that of the Golddusts. This horse Champion Blackhawk was owned in Central Ohio for a time, and left some very excellent roadsters in that region. He was by Vermont Blackhawk, dam by Cock of the Rock, and I strongly suspect that another daughter of the same stallion bore this horse Barnard Morgan, although my belief has no other support than that which is given above—that of locality, time, and the marked similarity of the blood traits and ways of going found in the same families. I have seen three stallion sons of Golddust which bore the most striking resemblance in form and manner of going to the stallion Rhode Island, enough to excite a strong belief that they also bore to him the relation of a controlling kinship in blood.

Golddust was foaled in 1855, and was sixteen hands high, and an early trotter. He trotted a mile in three minutes as a three-year-old. These will be recognized as Duroc-Messenger characteristics, and a wide departure from the pretended in-bred Morgan origin of the family.

The stallion Rhode Island was a great trotter, and a trotting sire, and the only line of trotting blood he possessed came from Cock of the Rock, a Duroc-Messenger; and if it be found that the dam of Barnard Morgan was by Cock of the Rock, the inheritance of Golddust is not only accounted for, but his peculiar gait is also explained. The latter peculiarity finds abundant explanation if we look further into the pedigree of Cock of the Rock. His dam was Romp, and her dam was the imported PotSos mare, and her dam was by *Gimerack*—the starting point of the long thigh—the index finger which controls this matter of gait in so many families and branches of our American trotters.

At this point, after this long but perhaps incomplete review of our

American Trotting Families and great Roadster Stallions, with what propriety may I refer to the conspicuous position and eminent distinction maintained by those of the Duroc-Messenger class. Their character so clearly marked, their physical conformation, their psychological organism, their universal breeding qualities, and their unrivaled trotting excellence, all combining to place them in the most pre-eminent distinction as a family of trotters of world-wide celebrity. And such a list as they present in Administrator, Almont, Abdallah Chief, Alhambra, Blackwood, Daniel Lambert, Florida, and probably Golddust, Gov. Sprague, Idol, Lysander, Mambrino Chief, Mambrino Patchen, Magna Charta, Messenger Duroc, Morgan Eagle, Rhode Island, Stephen A. Douglas, Swigert, the Star family in so great numbers, and Volunteer—how long is the list and how great is their renown, all displaying traits and qualities distinctly traceable to the matchless union of two great families.

And this brings me with a very appropriate suggestion to the close of these chapters. We have uniformly found that great qualities did not come by accident. Their origin may not have been known or clearly understood, but science, reason, common sense, and the most profound philosophy lay at the foundation of all acquired or transmitted excellences. Breeding is a science, and while great results may have come by ways not marked and outlined by clearly understood methods, the result has been achieved in spite of the lack of knowledge, and not as the fruit of ignorance or because intelligent action was not the highway of success.

# APPENDIX.

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## ALPHABETICAL LIST

OF THE HORSES WHICH HAD TROTTED IN 2:25 OR BETTER. BY THE RECORD,  
PRIOR TO JANUARY, 1878, GIVING THE PEDIGREES OF THE  
SAME SO FAR AS THEY ARE AUTHENTICATED.

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- Adelaide—2:21 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Phil Sheridan, son of Young Columbus, dam unknown.  
Albemarle—2:20; by Tom Hunter, dam by Blucher(?)  
Albert—2:24 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; unknown.  
Alley—2:24; by Volunteer, dam by New York Blackhawk.  
Allie West—2:25; by Almont, dam by Mambrino Chief.  
American Girl—2:16 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Amos' C. M. Clay, dam said to be by Contract.  
Amy—2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Volunteer, dam by Hambletonian.  
Amy B.—2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Winnebago, dam by Black Jack.  
Annie Collins—2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; unknown.  
Anodyne—2:25; by the Ross Colt, grandson of Young Harpinus, dam by  
Young Hogarth.  
Badger Girl—2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Black Flying Cloud, son of Vermont Backhawk.  
Banquo—2:21; said to be by Blanco, son of Iron's Cadmus.  
Barney Kelley—2:25; by Holland's Ethan Allen.  
Bashaw Jr.—2:24 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Green's Bashaw, dam by Green Mountain Morgan.  
Bella—2:22; by Hambletonian, dam by Jupiter.  
Belle Brassfield—2:25, (2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ , July, 1878); by son of Viley's Cripple, dam by  
Mambrino Chorister.  
Bill Thunder—2:25; by Union Clay, son of American Clay, dam by Alexander's Abdallah.  
Billy Barr—2:23 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Ethan Allen.  
Billy Ray—2:23 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Wood's Hambletonian, son of Alexander's Abdallah.  
Blackbird—2:22; by Simpson's Blackbird.  
Blackwood Jr.—2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Blackwood, dam by Mambrino Chief.  
Blanche—2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Young Morrill.  
Blue Mare—2:23; by Wood's Hambletonian, son of Alexander's Abdallah,  
dam by Potter's Clay.



- Bodine—2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Volunteer, dam by Harry Clay.  
 Bonner—2:23; by son of American Star, dam unknown.  
 Breeze—2:24; by Hambletonian, out of Kate, the dam of Bruno.  
 Brother Jonathan—2:24; by the Potter Horse.  
 Brown Dick—2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by son of American Star.  
 Calmar—2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Bourbon Chief, son of Mambrino Chief, dam by Bolivar.  
 Camors—2:19 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Gen. Knox, dam unknown.  
 Carrie—2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Volunteer, dam by American Star.  
 Castle Boy—2:21; by Gooding's Champion, dam unknown.  
 Champion Jr.—2:24; by Mambrino Champion, dam by the Nickson Horse.  
 Charley Mac—2:25; by Holbird's Ethan Allen.  
 Chicago or Jim Rockey—2:24 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Ole Bull, son of Pilot Jr., dam by American Eclipse.  
 Clementine—2:21; by Addison Jr., grandson of Vermont Blackhawk, dam unknown.  
 Clifton Boy—2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by son of Ethan Allen.  
 Comee—2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Daniel Lambert, dam by imp. Balrownie.  
 Commodore—2:25; by Post Boy, dam by Edward Everett.  
 Commodore Vanderbilt—2:25; by Young Columbus.  
 Commonwealth—2:22; by Phil Sheridan, son of Young Columbus, dam by Young St. Lawrence.  
 Cozette—2:19; by Blumberg's Black Bashaw, dam unknown.  
 Crown Prince—2:25; by Logan's Messenger, son of State of Maine, dam by Warrior.  
 Damon—2:23 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Ames' Bogus, dam by a son of Bush Messenger.  
 Dan Bryant—2:24; by Plow Boy, son of Excelsior, dam by Cone's Bacchus.  
 Dan Voorhies—2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Gen. McClellan, son of old Drew.  
 Deception—2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
 Defiance—2:24; by Chieftain, son of Hiatoga.  
 Dexter—2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Hambletonian, dam by American Star.  
 Dick Swiveler—2:23; by Walkill Chief, dam by Harry Clay.  
 Dick Taylor—2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Bob Didlake, son of Mambrino Chief, dam by Star Davis.  
 Draco Prince—2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Draco, son of Young Morrill, dam by Vermont Blackhawk.  
 Driver—2:25; by Volunteer, dam by American Star.  
 Ella Wright—2:24 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Trojan, son of Jackson's Blackhawk, dam by Vaughn's Hercules.  
 Elsie Good—2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Blue Bull, dam by Alexander's Abdallah.  
 Everett Ray—2:25; by Edward Everett.  
 Fearnought—2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Young Morrill, dam by Steve French Horse.  
 Fleety Golddust—2:20; by Golddust, dam a Morgan mare.  
 Flora Belle, 2:22 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Stevens' Uwharie, dam unknown.  
 Flora Temple—2:19 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by One-Eyed Kentucky Hunter, or by a horse of the Bogus family, dam by Spotted Arabian.  
 Frank—2:20; by Pathfinder, 2d grandson of Vermont Blackhawk.  
 Frank Jr.—2:23 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; unknown.

- Frank Reeves—2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Skedaddle, son of Whiteside's Blackhawk, dam by Dallas.
- Frank Vernon (Panic)—2:25; by Sherman Blackhawk.
- Frank Wood—2:24; by Volunteer, dam by son of American Star.
- Fred Hooper—2:23; by Royal Revenge, dam unknown.
- Gazelle—2:21; by Hambletonian, dam by Harry Clay.
- Gen. Butler—2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Smith Burr, son of Napoleon.
- Gen. Garfield—2:21; by Kentucky Blackhawk, dam by Capt. Walker.
- Gen. Grant—2:21; by Wapsie, son of Green's Bashaw, dam by Hanley's Hiatoga.
- George—2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Parris' Hambletonian.
- Geo. B. Daniels—2:24; by Champion Jr. (King's), dam by Greyhound.
- Geo. M. Patchen—2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by C. M. Clay, dam unknown.
- Geo. Palmer—2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Ames' Bogus, dam by Harry Clay.
- Geo. Wilkes—2:22; by Hambletonian, dam by Henry Clay.
- Gloster—2:17; by Volunteer, dam by Stockbridge Chief.
- Goldsmith Maid—2:14; by Alexander's Abdallah, dam by Old Abdallah.
- Gov. Sprague—2:20 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Rhode Island, dam by Hambletonian.
- Grafton—2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Waxy, dam by Kavanaugh's Grey Eagle.
- Great Eastern—2:19 (saddle, 2:16 $\frac{3}{4}$ ); by Walkill Chief, dam by a son of imp. Consternation.
- Green Mountain Maid—2:24 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Harris' Hambletonian.
- Hannah D.—2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Magna Charta, son of Morgan Eagle.
- Hannis—2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Mambrino Pilot.
- Harry Clay—2:23 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Strader's C. M. Clay Jr.
- Henry—2:20 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Magna Charta, also claimed by Harry Lathrop, dam unknown.
- Hiram Woodruff—2:25; by Phil Sheridan, son of Young Columbus, dam by Grey Eagle.
- Honest Harry—2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Winthrop Morrill.
- Hopeful—2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Godfrey's Patchen, dam by the Bridham Horse.
- Hotspur—2:24; by Ethan Allen, dam by Abdallah.
- Huntress—2:20 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Volunteer, dam by American Star.
- Hylas—2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Alcalde, son of Mambrino Chief, dam by Pilot Jr.
- Idol—2:23; by Stephen A. Douglas, dam by Long Island Blackhawk.
- Irene—2:24; by Dusty Miller, alias Roddy Horse, son of Canada Grey Eagle, dam by Abdallah.
- James Howell Jr.—2:24; by Hambletonian, dam by Harry Clay.
- Jay Gould—2:21 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Hambletonian, dam by American Star.
- Jennie—2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Red Eagle, dam by Pataskala.
- Jennie Holton—2:22; by Kentucky Whip (of Michigan.)
- Jim Irving—2:23; by Young Melbourne, dam by Lear's Sir William.
- Joe Brown—2:22; by Woodward's Rattler.
- Joe Ripley—2:25.
- John H.—2:21; by Blumberg's Black Bashaw.
- John Morgan (Medoc)—2:24; by Pilot Jr., dam by Medoc.
- John Murphy Jr.—2:25; by Delmonico, son of Gay Miller, dam by Glencoe.
- John Taylor—2:25.

- John W. Hall—2:25; by Independent.
- John W. Conley—2:24; by Tom Wonder, dam by Abdallah.
- Joker—2:22<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Parris' Hambletonian, dam by Vermont Hambletonian.
- Joseph A.—2:24; by Sackett's Hambletonian.
- Jubilee Lambert—2:25; by Daniel Lambert.
- Judge Fullerton—2:18; by Edward Everett, dam unknown.
- Kansas Chief—2:21<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by son of Josephus.
- Keen Jim—2:24<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Keen's Lookout, son of Bourbon Chief, dam by Morgan Rattler.
- Kilbourn Jim—2:23; by Wood's Hambletonian, dam a Morgan mare.
- King Philip—2:21; by Jay Gould, dam by Hambletonian.
- Kirkwood—2:24; by Green's Bashaw, dam by Green Mountain Morgan.
- Lady Banker—2:23; by Hambletonian, dam unknown.
- Lady Blanchard—2:24<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Whipple's Hambletonian.
- Lady Foxie—2:25; by Daniel Lambert.
- Lady Lockwood—2:25; by Neave's C. M. Clay Jr., dam by Alexander W.
- Lady Mac—2:23; by Whirlwind.
- Lady Maud—2:18<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Gen. Knox, dam unknown.
- Lady Pritchard—2:22<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Green Mountain Banner, dam by Flying Morgan.
- Lady Star—2:24; by Henry, son of American Star.
- Lady Snell—2:23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Godfrey's Patchen, dam by Biggart's Rattler.
- Lady Thorn—2:18<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Mambrino Chief, dam by Gano.
- Lady Turpin—2:23; by Bell Morgan, grandson of Vermont Blackhawk, dam by Brignoli.
- Laura Williams—2:24<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Holabird's Ethan Allen.
- Lew Scott—2:23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Scott's Hiatoga.
- Lida Bassett—2:25; by Forest King.
- Little Fred—2:20; by Eastman's Morgan, son of Hale's Green Mountain Morgan, dam by Blackbird.
- Little Gipsy—2:22; by Shawhan's Tom Hall.
- Little Mary—2:25; by Billy Mustapha.
- Lucille Golddust—2:16<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Golddust, dam by Bald Hornet.
- Lucy—2:18<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by G. M. Patchen, dam by May Day.
- Lula—2:15; by Alexander's Norman, dam by imp. Hooton.
- Lysander Boy—2:23; by Lysander.
- Magenta—2:24<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Woodford Mambrino, dam by Alexander's Abdallah.
- Major Allen—2:24<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Young Ethan Allen.
- Mambrino Gift—2:20; by Mambrino Pilot, dam by Pilot Jr.
- Mambrino Kate—2:21<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Mambrino Patchen, dam by State of Maine.
- Marion—2:23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Tom Crowder.
- Martha Washington—2:20<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by grandson of L. I. Blackhawk.
- Mattie—2:22<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Hambletonian, dam by Young Engineer.
- May Bird—2:21; by Geo. Wilkes, dam by Nonpareil, son of L. I. Blackhawk.
- May Howard—2:24; by Capt. Hanford.
- May Queen—2:20; by Alexander's Norman, dam by Crockett's Arabian.
- Mazomanie—2:20<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Kurtz Horse, son of Paul Jones, son of Columbus, dam by Bellfounder (?)

- Midnight—2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ , (2:20, July, 1878); by Peacemaker, son of Hambletonian, dam by son of Hiram Drew.
- Mohawk Jr.—2:25; by Mohawk, son of L. I. Blackhawk.
- Mollie Morris—2:22; by a French pacing pony.
- Molsey—2:21 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Whiteside's Blackhawk, dam by Dallas.
- Monroe Chief—2:25; by Jim Monroe, son of Alexander's Abdallah.
- Mountain Boy—2:20 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Edward Everett, dam by Gridley's Roebuck.
- Musie—2:21 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Middletown, dam by Fiddler.
- Myron Perry—2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Young Columbus, dam by Hopkins' Abdallah.
- Mystic—2:22; by Reliance, son of C. M. Clay.
- Ned Wallace—2:25; by Taggart's Abdallah, son of Gifford.
- Nellie Irwin—2:25; by Middletown.
- Nettie—2:18; by Hambletonian, dam by American Star.
- Nettie Burlew—2:24; by Champion Jr. (King's.)
- Nerea—2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by John Nelson, son of imp. Trustee, dam by Gen. Taylor.
- Nil Desperandum—2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Belmont, son of Alexander's Abdallah.
- Nutwood—2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Belmont, dam by Pilot Jr.
- Oakland Maid—2:22; by Speculation, son of Hambletonian.
- Observer—2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by the Holmes Horse, grandson of Sherman Blackhawk, dam unknown.
- Occident—2:16 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Dot, son of pacer St. Clair, dam unknown.
- Orient—2:24; by Smith's Patchen.
- Pat Hunt—2:25; by Tecumseh, son of Pilot.
- Pilot Temple—2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Pilot Jr., out of the dam of Flora Temple.
- Planter—2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Red Bird.
- Powers—2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Volunteer, dam by American Star.
- Prince—2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Long Island Blackhawk, dam unknown.
- Proctor—2:23; by Mambrino Chief Jr., dam by Vermont Hambletonian.
- Prospero—2:20; by Messenger Duroc, dam by Harry Clay.
- Protine—2:24, (2:21, July, 1878); by Blackwood, dam by Mambrino Chorister.
- Randall—2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by J. T. Brady, dam unknown.
- Rarus—2:14 $\frac{1}{4}$ , (July, 1878); by Conklin's Abdallah, believed to be a son of Hambletonian, dam by Telegraph, son of C. M. Clay.
- Red Cloud—2:18; by Legal Tender, son of Moody's Davy Crockett, dam unknown.
- Rhode Island—2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Whitehall, dam by Nigger Baby.
- Richard—2:21 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Blue Bull, dam by Sir Leslie.
- Ripon Boy—2:25; by Ira Allen, dam by Wiley's Blucher.
- Rolla Golddust—2:25; by Golddust.
- Rosalind—2:21 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; by Alexander's Abdallah, dam by Brown Pilot, son of Copper-bottom.
- Sam Purdy—2:20 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Geo. M. Patchen Jr., dam by Illinois Medoc.
- Scotland—2:22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by imp. Bonnie Scotland, dam by Pilot Jr.
- Sea Foam—2:24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Young Columbus.
- Sensation—2:22 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; by Dixon's Ethan Allen, dam by Indian Chief.
- Shepherd Boy—2:23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; by Cornell's Ethan Allen.
- Sheridan—2:23; by Edward Everett.

Silas Rich—2:24<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by imp. Young Priam, dam unknown.  
 Silversides—2:23; unknown.  
 Sleepy John—2:24<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; unknown.  
 Slow Go—2:18<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Young Sharatuck, a grandson of Medoc.  
 Smuggler—2:15<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Blanco, son of Iron's Cadmus, dam by Tuckahoe.  
 St. James—2:23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Gooding's Champion, dam unknown.  
 St. Julien—2:22<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Volunteer, dam by Harry Clay.  
 Susie—2:21; by Hampshire Boy, a grandson of Vermont Blackhawk, dam by son of Blackhawk.  
 Tanner Boy—2:22<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Edward Everett.  
 Thorndale—2:22<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Alexander's Abdallah, dam by Mambrino Chief.  
 Thomas Jefferson—2:23; by Toronto Chief, out of Gipsy Queen.  
 Thomas L. Young—2:19<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, by Yellow Jacket, dam by Dragon.  
 Tom Keeler—2:25; by Jersey Star.  
 Tommy Gates—2:25; by The Moor.  
 Trampoline—2:25; by Tramp.  
 Trio—2:23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Volunteer, dam by American Star.  
 Unknown—2:23; unknown.  
 Vanity Fair—2:25; by Albion, dam unknown.  
 Voltaire—2:21<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Tattler, dam by Mambrino Chief.  
 Vulcan—2:25; by Green Mountain Banner.  
 W. H. Allen—2:23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; by Volunteer, dam unknown.  
 White Stockings—2:21.  
 Wild Lily—2:24; by Daniel Lambert.  
 Woodford Chief—2:22<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Clark Chief, dam by Billy Townes.  
 York State—2:23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Gooding's Champion.  
 Young Bruno—2:22<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; by Hambletonian, out of Old Kate, the dam of Bruno.

## RECORD OF PERFORMANCES.

Good judges maintain that a horse is able to trot under the saddle in three seconds faster than when in harness, (*i. e.*, harnessed to a sulky), and in six seconds faster than when harnessed to a wagon. As the great majority of races are now "in harness," when a record is mentioned, it is generally understood as "in harness" time, unless especially stated to the contrary.

### ONE MILE.

#### *In Harness.*

Goldsmith Maid.....	2:14	American Girl.....	2:16 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Rarus.....	2:14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	Occident.....	2:16 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Lula.....	2:15	Gloster.....	2:17
Smuggler.....	2:15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	Dexter.....	2:17 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Lucille Golddust.....	2:16 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	Hopeful.....	2:17 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>

#### *To Saddle.*

Great Eastern.....	2:15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
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## TWO MILES.

*In Harness.*

Flora Temple—Eclipse Course, L. I., Aug. 16, 1859; 4:50<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.  
 Dexter—Fashion Course, L. I., June 14, 1867; 4:51.  
 Geo. M. Patchen—Union Course, L. I., June 12, 1860; 4:53<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.  
 Reindeer—Louisville, June 21, 1860; 4:58.  
 Gen Butler—Fashion Course, L. I., July 23, 1867; 4:59.  
 Dreadnaught—Fleetwood Park, N. Y., June 29, 1870; 4:59<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.  
 Tennessee—June 11, 1872; 5:00.  
 John Morgan—Louisville, Oct. 25, 1860; 5:00<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.  
 Stonewall Jackson—Fashion Course, L. I., Oct. 4, 1864; 5:01.  
 Princess—Eclipse Course, L. I., June 23, 1859; 5:02.

*To Saddle.*

Geo. M. Patchen—Fashion Course, L. I., July 1, 1863; 4:56.  
 Lady Suffolk—Centreville, L. I., Sept. 24, 1840; 4:59.  
 Shark—Union Course, L. I., June 27, 1866; 5:00<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.  
 Tacony—Union Course, L. I., Sept. 27, 1852; 5:02.  
 Silas Rich—Chicago, Sept. 9, 1867; 5:04.  
 Edwin Forrest—Philadelphia, May 6, 1840; 5:05.

*To Wagon.*

Gen. Butler—Fashion Course, L. I., June 18, 1863; 4:56<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.  
 Dexter—Long Island, Oct. 27, 1865; 4:56<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.  
 Flora Temple—Centreville, L. I., Oct. 17, 1855; 4:57.  
 Geo. M. Patchen—Fashion Course, L. I., June 18, 1863; 5:04.

## THREE MILES.

*In Harness.*

Huntress—Prospect Park, L. I., Sept. 23, 1872; 7:21<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

## TEN MILES.

*In Harness.*

John Stewart—Riverside, Boston, June 30, 1868; 28:02<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.  
 Prince—Union Course, L. I., Nov. 11, 1853; 28:08<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.  
 Captain Magowan—Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 3, 1860; 28:11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.  
 Gipsy Queen—Louisville, Ky., Oct. 27, 1861, 28:39.  
 Julia Aldrich—San Francisco, June 15, 1858; 29:04<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.  
 Mattie Howard—San Francisco, Dec. 25, 1873; 29:13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.  
 Duchess—1856; 29:17.  
 Gen Taylor—San Francisco, Feb. 6, 1857; 29:41<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.  
 Fanny Jenks—Oct. 2, 1844; 29:59.

*To Wagon.*

Princess—San Francisco, March 2, 1859; 29:10<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

## TWENTY MILES.

*In Harness.*

Captain Magowan—Riverside, Boston, Oct. 18, 1865; 58:25.

John Stewart—Fashion Course, L. I., 1868; 58:30.

Trustee—Union Course, Oct. 20, 1855; 59:35 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Lady Fulton—Centreville, L. I., July 12, 1855; 59:55.

*To Wagon.*

John Stewart—Fashion Course, L. I., Sept. 22, 1868; 59:23.

## FIFTY MILES.

*In Harness.*

Black Joke—Providence, R. I., July, 1835; 3h. 57s.

Ariel—1846; 3h. 55m, 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ s.

*To Wagon.*

Spangle—Oct. 15, 1855; 3h, 59m, 4s.

## ONE HUNDRED MILES.

*In Harness.*

Conqueror—Centreville, L. I., Nov. 12, 1853; 8h, 55m, 53s.

Fanny Jenks—Albany, N. Y., May 5, 1845; 9h, 38m, 34s.

Fanny Murray—Albany, N. Y., May 15, 1846; 9h, 41m, 26s.

Kate—Centerville, L. I., June 7, 1850; 9h, 49m,  $\frac{3}{4}$ s.

Tom Thumb—Sunbury Com., Eng., Feb. 2, 1829; 10h, 7m.

## ONE MILE.

*Double Harness.*

Joe Clark and Mollie Morris—Mystic Park, Sept. 3, 1874; 2:26 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Jessie Wales and Darkness—2:27 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

George Wilkes and Honest Allen—Boston, July 4, 1871; 2:28.

Kirkwood and Idol—Prospect Park, May 31, 1870; 2:29.

Jessie Wales and Honest Allen—Boston, Sept. 30, 1869; 2:29 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

Black Harry and Belle Strickland—Narragansett, Oct. 5, 1869; 2:30.

Honest Allen and Kirkwood—Prospect Park, July 21, 1870; 2:30.

India Rubber Ben and Mate—Milwaukee, Sept. 30, 1869; 2:31 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Jessie Wales and Ben Franklin—Boston, Sept. 20, 1867; 2:32.

India Rubber Ben and Lady Walton—Boston, June 16, 1869; 2:32.

Kirkwood and License—Boston, June 9, 1870; 2:32 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Nabocklish and Medoc—Buffalo, July 31, 1868; 2:32 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

Honest Allen and Myron Perry—Boston, June 16, 1869; 2:33.

Dot and Ironsides—Philadelphia, Nov. 1, 1870; 2:35 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Lantern and Whalebone—1856; 2:42.

## ONE MILE.

*With Running Mate.*

Ethan Allen and Mate—Fashion Course, L. I., June 21, 1867; 2:15.

Honest Allen and Mate—Prospect Park, Sept. 15, 1870; 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Brown George and Mate—Milwaukee, Sept. 16, 1867; 2:20.

## TWO MILES.

Lady Palmer and Flatbush Maid—Fashion Course, L. I., May 13, 1862; 5:01 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Lady Suffolk and Rifle—Philadelphia, May 31, 1842; 5:19.

## PACING RECORD.

## ONE MILE.

*In Harness.*

Billy Boyce—Buffalo, Aug. 1, 1868; 2:14 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

*To Wagon.*

Pocahontas—Union Course, L. I., June 21, 1855; 2:17 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

## TWO MILES.

*In Harness.*

Hero—Union Course, L. I., May 17, 1853; 4:56 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

James K. Polk—Philadelphia, June 30, 1850; 4:57 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Roanoke—Philadelphia, June 30, 1850; 4:57 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

## THREE MILES.

*In Harness.*

James K. Polk—Centreville, L. I., Sept. 13, 1847; 7:44.

—*Appendix of Woodruff's Trotting Horse of America.*

## MISCELLANEOUS SUGGESTIONS

## WITH REFERENCE TO THE MANAGEMENT OF BREEDING STOCK.

I do not propose to extend these pages by any directions as to the ordinary management of horses, as most horsemen understand and practice it far better than myself. Some few matters worthy of observation have been gathered in my own experience, and may be embodied in the following practical suggestions:

Mares that have been kept long on grain feed, are not as likely to get in foal as those which have run a short time on grass.



When mares come in season early in spring they often display an unnatural and constant heat. Conception will not take place until this has passed away. Bleeding and a run at grass restores a healthy condition, and success may be expected to follow.

It is not believed that clover pasture, especially white clover, is suitable for mares during the period in which conception is desired to occur. Many breeders are of the opinion that such pasture causes the mares to pass out of heat and not to return, and the breeder is led to suppose they are in foal until the lapse of time discloses the fact of his disappointment. However valuable clover may be for young stock, and especially in the fall, I should not allow mares in the breeding season to pasture on such grass.

Mares once in foal are liable at the third or fourth month to lose their foals, and this danger is greatly increased by scarcity of water or improper food, and especially by the firing of guns by hunters in the vicinity of their pastures. This latter cause of danger may extend to other periods. Many otherwise quiet horses are very excitable when they hear the near report of a gun, and many foals are thereby lost.

There is also a liability to the same danger at a later period—say at eight or nine months, but this comes from improper feed, and care must be used at this period that no rye is fed to the mares. Hemp seed has been found to be a valuable preventive of abortions, when taken at about the time of impending danger, and before the case has gone too far.

I have had several mares giving strong indications of such a mishap, which were carried through successfully by the use of one to two tablespoonfuls of hemp seed once each day; or oftener if the animal displays indications of restlessness or disquietude. Mares at such times are very nervous, and it is best to keep them entirely separate from other animals, and give food and other care that will engage their attention, and take the mind away from the impending danger.

Twin colts are apt to be slipped or aborted at about the period of eight months, and if they are not then lost, they are apt to die, and the mare rarely survives. Twin colts are not often seen alive.

I have had several slipped prematurely, and the mares came out all right. I had one pair carried until a period of ten to eleven months, and I lost the mare.

A mare sometimes shows slight signs of heat when in foal and three or four months advanced. Should she be offered the horse at such time, she may receive him, but generally she does so with some evidences of unwillingness. The result is, that the abortion of her foal follows within about a week; hence great care should be exercised in permitting such a service, after a mare has been supposed to be in foal.

The time of year at which foals should come has some importance. If they come in winter or very early spring, great care must be exercised to have the mare on such feed as will promote a ready flow of milk. There is nothing equal to grass—but it is quite hazardous to have colts foaled in hot weather. I want to avoid the hot days of June, July and August, and the last two in particular. A colt foaled in the heat of the sun, is killed by it sooner than if

he comes in a rain and sleet storm. In the latter, if he can once get on his feet, and get some warm milk from his mother, he will defy the elements, but a colt less than a week old, should never be allowed to lie down in the heat of the sun of midsummer.

Moreover, a mare foaling in warm weather is liable to inflammation, or fever, and such attacks are very fatal. Having suffered severe losses from this cause, I call especial attention to the danger.

I notice in a recent journal a writer recommends the use of injections of carbolic acid—quite strong—into the uterus, in the case of any kind of animal, and gives account of great success with sheep. I recently advised the use of the same remedy in case of an Alderney cow, and her recovery followed. I should regard its use very favorably.

The tinctures of aconite and belladonna are valuable remedies in all cases of fever in animals, and in cases of colic, or inflammation of the bowels, doses of from ten to fifteen drops, given in a tablespoonful of water, may be administered. Since resorting to this line of treatment I lose no horses from colic.

For curbs, spavins, ringbones and splints, the best remedy ready at hand is the penetrative blister, or ointment of *Bic. Iodide of Mercury*. This should be kept on hand for such purposes at all times. These suggestions, however, are for the every-day practical management of horses, rather than as veterinary prescriptions for cases of illness.

The most healthful and suitable place for a horse—stallion or any other—is a box or stable opening into a small enclosure, no matter how small, into which he can be turned daily, if the weather is not stormy; and with plenty of open doors or windows, not exposed to winds, but where he can have an abundance of fresh air, and do about as he wishes to do. Freedom is enjoyable to man or beast.

Those stallions have been the most successful reproducers which have been kept at hard work, of their kind, for the greater part of their lives.

Mares kept and raised in idleness have not generally been the dams of great horses, either as performers or as reproducers.

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#### THE BROOD MARE.

The brood mare should be selected from a breed distinguished for the particular service required of her colts, or from the fact that she has bred distinguished colts. Dams that have bred superior colts, all other things being equal, will breed them again. We can then judge of the future by the past. We can determine from observation and experience whether the reproduction of the same kind will meet the public wants. If the market requires fleet colts, the dam must be faultless in action to meet the emergency. If strength to carry weights is demanded, she must have substance well placed. The best mares are the cheapest, because they will stamp their own good qualities upon several generations of their descendants. Mares that have thrown such wonderful prodigies as Goldsmith Maid and Lucy would be cheap at any price, because in the hands of skillful breeders, raised to the

highest possible state of health and vigor, they would breed others of equal merit.

We have numerous and weighty examples to show that dams of aristocratic lineage, with a robust constitution and superior action, stunted to a stallion of equal merit, have bred trotters and runners of the highest pretensions, one after another, for years in succession.

The celebrated English mare Penelope had several foals to Waxy in succession; all attained to great celebrity on the turf, and became far more distinguished in the stud as successful progenitors than any of her produce by other stallions. The records of the turf and the stud bear witness to the superior get of Waxy with this famous mare. The blood of Penelope may be recognized among her collateral descendants in Touchstone, Alarm, Defence, Cotherstone, Orlando, Hero, and the Flying Dutchman.

Madame Temple bred two worthy scions from the only stallions that ever served her with any pretensions to trotting. She bred Flora, the former queen of the turf, and Pilot Temple, the present heir apparent to the trotting throne.

The dam of Doble, the fastest two-year-old on record, bred Mambrino, and others of good repute. She never failed with a trotting sire of great speed to reproduce his equal.

The reason why some men have succeeded while others have failed with the same breed, is obvious, and is the result of several causes. Among the most prominent causes of success are the appropriate union of sire and dam; suitable condition of parents in the stud, and particular attention to the food, exercise and comfort of their offspring. By condition we mean the high state of bodily health and nervous activity at the time of breeding. It is the active state of the vital and physical powers that transmit in full force to the issue. Why is one colt better than another from the same dam? The reason is obvious—from robust health; she was in better condition at the time of conception.

Mares breed their best foals in the prime of life, before age has exhausted their energies or hard work enfeebled their health. Dexter was the first foal; Flora Temple was the first foal of her dam at five years old. The unequivocal soundness of wind and limb, body and bone, are inestimable qualities in the brood mare that will go down to the third and fourth generation of her descendants. Such mares, in suitable condition, would soon regenerate our present weak, diseased, limping apologies for horses. Stallions and mares may perpetuate their defects and do incalculable mischief. Diseases are hereditary, and liable to be entailed by the sire and sown broadcast over the land.

Mares will breed on to the common age of eighteen; some breed on to the age of thirty. Madame Temple bred until she was over thirty years of age. Her daughter Flora bred her last colt to Leamington at twenty-six years old. There are long-lived families in the horse kingdom as well as in the human family. Stallions last in the stud to greater ages than mares. Diomed was imported at twenty-two years old; he served in the harem for many years on this side of the Atlantic, and left a valuable progeny.

Hambletonian produced his best colts at the following ages: Alexander's

Abdallah was got by the old horse when he was two years old; Volunteer was sired when he was four years old; Edward Everett when he was five; Dexter when he was eight; Bruno when he was eleven; Sentinel when twelve; Jay Gould when fourteen; Gazelle, Nettie, and Aberdeen when sixteen; and Startle when seventeen.—*Turf Journal*.

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#### STALLIONS.

It is stated in the sketch of Golddust that his sire, Vermont Morgan, was impotent for more than a year after being brought from Vermont to Illinois. I had a stallion with a similar experience. I bought him at St. Catherines, in Canada, as a five-year-old. The previous year I was assured he produced ninety-seven colts—a statement which I regarded as doubtful, but he never produced one after that. He was entirely impotent for two years, and died before he was restored. I have been informed that such cases have decreased, and that the best remedy is plenty of work and grass, and entire withdrawal from all offers of stud service.

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#### FEEDING.

The horse is kept for his muscle, and his food must be such as to develop the frame and muscular system. The feeder must have a clear idea of the purpose for which an animal is reared, and a comprehension of the office performed by the food. The food should present the precise elements in the proper proportion required for the uses of the animal. Animals kept for their flesh as food require a larger proportion of carbonaceous elements than those valuable only for muscle. Indian corn is the great crop of the West, and is the best type of fattening food, and has abundant use in the production of beef, mutton and pork. It may also properly form a part of the food of horses, and even of colts, but to the latter must be fed very sparingly. Bear in mind, it is chiefly the muscle and the finest quality of springy bone that requires development in the

#### COLT.

As we are now studying the proper development of the colt, let us see what Nature provides for its early growth. It will be seen from the analysis of the mare's milk, that the casein, or muscle-forming element, is 3.40 per cent., butter 2.50, milk sugar 3.52, ash .53 per cent., and water 90.05 per cent. The mare's milk contains a larger per centage of water than cow's milk, but the relative proportion of the food elements is nearly the same. There is 9.95 per cent. of dry matter (food) in mare's milk, and of this the food of respiration and fat production (butter and milk sugar) amount to 6.02 per cent., so the casein amounts to 3.40 per cent., or more than one-third of the whole. This gives a little more than one of nitrogenous to two of carbonaceous elements. The colt thus receives food, in the mother's milk, in the proportion of one of nitrogenous (muscle-forming) to 1.92 of carbonaceous elements. This tells us in the strongest possible language, that the colt requires food rich in muscle-

forming elements, and that it is a great mistake to use food rich in starch, such as corn, or even barley, for the young colt.

For four to six months the colt takes its natural food—the milk of the dam. If this is in liberal supply, the colt will be sufficiently nourished with the addition of the grass it will get in pasture. But care must be taken to ascertain whether the dam gives sufficient milk to produce a strong growth. Scanty nourishment at this period is often fatal to full development afterward. The whole system of the young animal is plastic in the hands of the skillful feeder. Full rations of appropriate food will give it the habit of strong and rapid growth, which is easily continued after weaning; but, on the other hand, deficient nourishment will not only contract its present growth, but also contract its powers of digestion so as to incapacitate it for using sufficient food to give full growth after weaning.

The vigorous growth of a colt while young is too important to be neglected on any pretext, such as that “whip-cord, muscle and solid bone must be grown very slowly that the fibres may become perfect,” etc. There is a vast amount of such humbug afloat. Slow growth presupposes scanty food; does insufficient nutrition produce the most perfect development? Taking a lesson from tree growth: How does the fibre of the slow-growing, large, forest hickory compare with that of the rapid, open field, second-growth hickory—the grain of the latter being twice or thrice the thickness of the former? Will the expert, who wants an ax-helve or spokes for a trotting sulky, choose the slow-growing hickory in preference to the rapid second-growth?

I think the same rule will hold between two colts, the one scantily and the other abundantly fed. But as in this case of the rapidly-growing hickory, we wish it seasoned to give us the full force of its springy fibre; so likewise the rapidly-growing colt must have a time of seasoning to perfect, by temperate use and intelligent training, its wonderful power of muscular endurance. I believe this foolish prejudice against good feeding for colts has arisen from the fact that high feeding and fattening have been considered synonymous. Such food as would produce fat rather than muscle can not be too strongly condemned.

#### MILK RATION FOR COLT.

If the dam yields too little milk to produce vigorous growth in the colt, it should be increased by food of as nearly the same composition as may be. This is nearly always at hand in cow's milk. A little practice will soon teach the young colt to take cow's milk with a relish. New milk may be given at first, but soon replaced with skim milk, which, possessing so large a proportion of casein, or muscle-forming food, and phosphate of lime, is exactly adapted to the growth of muscle and bone. This is also so cheap that vigorous growth may be kept up at very small cost. For colts one or two months old, one quart of milk given morning and evening will be sufficient. It may be sweetened a little at first to render it more palatable. Colts, like children, are fond of sweets; but sugar should only be added as a temptation in teaching them to eat, for it is a fattening food and improper to be given as a diet. This use of cow's milk in growing colts is not a mere theory with the writer, he has

tested it in many instances and found it admirably adapted to the purpose. He raised two yearlings that were fed a little skim milk after two months old till weaned, and then continued in larger quantity after weaning and through the first winter. They were given from four to six quarts of milk each, per day, with hay and one quart of oats, till one year old. These colts grew very steadily, developing all parts of the body evenly, and made horses one hundred pounds heavier than either sire or dam. They were much inclined to exercise and test comparative speed at all periods during growth, and more muscular horses, of their inches, are seldom seen. I once purchased some colts six months old, of a good breed, that had been kept on insufficient food, and not properly developed for that age. To make amends for this want of care and food, four quarts of skim milk were given to each colt for one month and then increased to six quarts, which ration, with two quarts of oats per day, was continued for six months, or till one year old. This produced a development which no grain ration could have done. The advantage of the milk ration over a like amount of food containing the same elements in another form is, that the food in the milk is in solution and very easily digested. Stress is laid upon this milk feeding for colts, first, because it is a most appropriate food; secondly, because in large portions of the country skim milk can be had cheap, and it may be thus turned to the best account, for horse flesh is more valuable than that of other animals. If milk is not easily obtained, then the colt may be fed a pint of oats twice a day, in addition to the milk of its dam, if that is too small in quantity. Before the colt is weaned, it is well to teach it to eat a little oil-meal with its oats. When deprived of the dam's milk this oil-meal will prevent constipation and furnish a large proportion of muscle-forming food as well as bone material. About one pint of oil-meal per day will be sufficient. Another food, which I have used very profitably for the young colt, is linseed or flaxseed. A half pint of flaxseed boiled in four quarts of water, and then two quarts of bran or oatmeal boiled with it, makes an excellent day's ration, given in two parts—the oil and the albuminoids seem to be in just the right proportion. I have found this ration of flaxseed and oatmeal gruel the best preventive of relaxation or constipation of the bowels, both in the colt and the calf. The small quantity of oil seems to be very soothing to the alimentary canal, and it gives a smooth, glossy coat.—*Live-Stock Journal*.

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#### FEEDING COLTS.

A colt needs a very different feed from the mature horse. Milk is the natural food of young animals of the mammalia class. It contains all the elements necessary for the production of bone and muscle so as to give both size and strength. If for any reason the mare is not able to suckle her foal, then the colt must be fed four or five months with cow's milk. As this is richer in both caseine and butter than that of the mare, but is deficient in sugar, it should be reduced with water about one-third, and a little sugar or molasses added. At the end of a month skimmed milk may be substituted for the pure article, as the loss of the cream does not detract from its value as colt food. Fat is a

positive detriment to young animals intended for labor. They want enough fat to keep them well lubricated and to furnish them with animal heat, but anything beyond this makes them loggy, not to say lazy, and hinders a strong, sinewy development. The herders of most domestic animals make a mistake in piling on fat at too early an age. It gives the animal a round, sleek look, but does not conduce to its health or perfect maturity.

If the mare is with foal again, she should not be allowed to suckle her colt more than four months, otherwise her energies are divided between the colt and fetus, much to the damage of the latter. Neither should a brood mare be taxed heavily with work. Light exercise will do her no damage, but her main energies should be devoted to the development of the foal, if we wish this development to be perfect. Many a farmer has been made a widower from the overworking of his wife while raising a family of children. The loss of wives and mares, and the unsound constitution of children and colts, must not be attributed to ill luck in such cases. It is the result of ignorance, or disregard of the law of breeding, which requires that the natural energies should be directed mainly to the offspring.

When the colt is weaned, he should be fed with skimmed milk for a time, to which may be added a pint of oat meal. The latter ration should be continued through the first year of the colt's life, and increased to a quart gradually as the colt becomes a yearling. Oats will develop bone and muscle better than corn, and if a few potatoes or carrots are occasionally fed, say twice a week, the development will be all the more perfect. Western farmers raise all animals, horses not excepted, on corn, and it must be confessed that their corn-fed horses are good looking, but we have not found them to possess the muscle and endurance of the oat-fed animals of the East. The first year is a trying one in the life of all animals, and especially in that of the horse, as, with all his energy and nervous fire, "he is a natural born fool," as a farmer once expressed it. The colt is excitable, is afraid of his own shadow, and in running away from it runs into danger. "It is a wise child that knows its father," is an old saying, but a colt does not seem to know its own mother, and in its bewilderment runs after every gelding it meets. The better way, therefore, is to keep the mare and her foal in some quiet pasture, where the latter will not be liable to fright and over-exertion. With free range, there is no danger that he will not have the necessary exercise. The very exuberance of his spirits prompts him to try his paces and kick up his heels, and the wonder is that in his reckless races, in which he leaps brush and brook, he does not dislocate his joints or break his neck.

In the first winter comes the struggle for life with the colt, and we have often wondered at the careless, not to say cruel, manner in which he is treated by most farmers. The mature, rough-hided and thick-haired horse is carefully housed and blanketed, but the young and tender colt is given the freedom of the yard and open shed, and told to pick up his living from the oats which his seniors have rejected. It is very well to have respect to age, but young animals have some rights which farmers should feel bound to regard. Among these rights are comfortable housing, clean bedding and nutritious food. We verily believe that more colts are stunted and spoiled during their

first winter campaign than in all the subsequent years of their life. We have seen flocks of yearling colts even in yards of those who professed to be good breeders, that were rough-coated, scrawny looking animals, dwarfed in size and cowed in spirit, all for the want of shelter, food and cleanliness. Comparatively few colts come out in the spring with increase of size or increase of value. This ought not to be. It is a fundamental law in physiology that every animal should be kept steadily improving from the time of birth—conception even—until time of maturity. Every interruption to progress is a damage to the constitution, producing some flaw in wind or limb.—*New York Times*.

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#### THE TRAINING OF TROTTING COLTS.

A Tennessee breeder, who evidently is a man of practical experience, writes to a local paper, giving his ideas about the training and development of the trotting horse. The writer in question seems to be so practical and sensible that I make room for the major part of his instructions:

1. Your colt is well broken to harness and in good condition, not too fat nor too poor; drive him to a skeleton wagon, so as to have no weight on the back until you get him gaited. In the wagon you can see how he handles his feet, whether he has a long or a short stride—if a long stride and has good knee action, rolls his feet well under him, that is good enough; he will improve. If he has a long stride, but does not gather quick enough, put a little heavier shoe on his front feet, or weight boots, from one to two pounds, as occasion may require. If he has not action enough behind, and does not stifle outside of his body, get lead rollers, and have them well covered with sheepskin, so they will not rub his legs. The rollers should weigh one pound each, and be buckled on above the pastern joint of the hind leg. Then your colt will have plenty of action. After you have driven a few times slowly with these on, you can let him move a little way at a time, not over a hundred yards. If your colt is feeling finely, give him work enough to keep him steady. Never drive your colts with a full belly, and always give a few swallows of water before and after driving, and sponge out his head and nostrils. If he is warm, scrape him off well; then straighten his hair down well with a rubbing cloth; then put a light blanket on him, tie it up well around his breast so that the wind can not blow on him, and walk him for thirty-five minutes when there is no wind; then take him in and rub dry and curry him off and give him a little more water—by doing this you will never have a stiff horse. Some persons after a hard drive take the horse into the stable and go to rubbing him dry. Now, your horse stands there for an hour while they are rubbing him; then they rub him off with a brush—and he is done till the next day, and when you put the harness on to drive him he comes out of the stable stiff and sore all over—he would do anything rather than go off cheerfully, with head and tail up; he would be more likely to “shake hands” with you with his hind feet. In dry and hot weather keep your horse’s feet well stuffed with cow manure, or flaxseed meal mixed with water; not too soft or it will not stay in. This course will keep fever out



of his feet and prevent them from cracking, and they will grow and seldom contract.

Now your colt has been driven four weeks, very little fast work. He is well seasoned in wind, body and legs. Now drive him regularly every day, and when you first go out with him drive him slowly for two miles, then increase his speed a little for three miles, yet not to his best—go about half speed. Next day drive him three miles slowly, the third mile let him move along a little faster, then turn round the right way of the track, and when you come to a straight and level place in the track let him move up strong for two hundred yards, then hold him up and let him go slow till you come to the same place again, then let him go again; don't force him to a break, but keep well in hand and square; now jog him a mile and take him off the track. If he is a high-strung fellow and inclined to be refractory give him more work. All colts are not alike; some require more work than others. By training them this way you will soon get them so they will like to trot and to know what you want of them, and every time they come to that place they will want to trot, and like it. Work your colts this way for two weeks, not speeding oftener than every other day. Now that your colt has been six weeks in training, and he knows what is wanted of him, you can speed him a little further, three hundred yards, and force him a little faster; tap him lightly with the whip and keep him level. If he is inclined to mix, take him up a little and shift the bit in his mouth and speak a little rough to him, and touch him with the whip, he will square himself out and trot faster. Never let him go into a break. When your colt has been in training two months you can increase his work in distance and speed him further, but not over a quarter of a mile at a time. As soon as he trots a quarter well and squarely, and finishes well, 'let him up' for a week, that is, drive him slow and let him have some grass for ten minutes every day; it will not hurt him. He is now rested for a week: he is feeling fine and full of trot—you can increase his work, drive him seven miles every day, and speed him half a mile three times a week. When you have got your colt where he will trot a mile handy without a break, he is doing better than the average, and if you have been driving him up to this time without a break, now is the time to learn him to break and catch in a trot quickly."—*The Turf, Field and Farm*.

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